

THE VOTE,
Nov. 12th, 1915.
ONE PENNY.

WOMEN AND THE FOOD SUPPLY.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

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FRIDAY, NOV. 12, 1915

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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WOMEN SUFFRAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

A Disappointment, but Victory only Deferred.

"Beaten in New Jersey on October 19, 1915, by the Political Bosses, the women started a new campaign for equal suffrage on October 20." This news, just to hand from America, will apply with equal force to the women of New York, Massachusetts, and Pennsylvania, in which States, according to cabled news, the male electorate on November 2 defeated woman suffrage by majorities estimated at 250,000, 108,000, and 150,000. We sympathise with our sisters on the other side of the Atlantic in their disappointment, but we know that they are undaunted in their fight, and will continue until victory crowns their efforts. We congratulate them on the splendid fight they made against the forces of evil—vice and liquor interests powerfully arrayed against them, as well as misrepresentation and calumny. The Anti-suffragists were compelled, on demand of Mrs. Chapman Catt, to withdraw a leaflet, scattered broadcast over New York State, declaring that "woman suffrage should be repudiated because of the type and attitude of its leaders," Mrs. Catt and others being mentioned by name. Another attempt by the Antis to defeat equal suffrage was to declare that it would increase election expenses and taxation. This attack was met by signed declarations from Governors and Secretaries of State in the equal suffrage States. With one voice the reply was that increased cost was only in proportion to the increase in the number of voters. "The argument of increased taxation because of woman suffrage is absurd," says Montana.

On the side of the women were those who stand for justice and freedom. President Wilson voted in favour of woman suffrage in his home State, New Jersey, and declared his belief that every mature person of sound mind who is required to obey the laws of the country should have a voice determining what those laws should be. Secretary McAdoo, of the Treasury, maintained that theoretical objections against woman suffrage would prove as groundless as earlier objections to woman's share

in the business and industrial life of the nation. Sometime ago ex-President Roosevelt declared himself a suffragist, and he urges "every decent and self-respecting citizen" to join the Movement to secure the suffrage for women. He says: "Vice and crime are conducted by a portion of the population in which there are ten men to one woman. When you see men who make a business of that which is foul and base rallying against a Cause, you may be convinced it is good common-sense to stick to that Cause." William Jennings Bryan, ex-State Secretary, has declared that the argument which convinced him of the justice of the women's demand was that a mother has the right to a voice in determining her child's environment. He urged voters to follow the lead of President Wilson and ex-President Roosevelt, adding "Every evil influence in society is opposed to woman suffrage." Before the elections prominent men in New Jersey and New York, of different avocations and political opinions, issued statements giving their reasons for supporting woman suffrage. They pointed to its success in twelve States in the Union and in foreign countries, and to "the general tuning up and liberalising of life, the improvement among women themselves, the distinct gain in legislation affecting children, women in industry, morals, and municipal efficiency. In the United States to-day," they say, "the number of women demanding the ballot is greater than the number of men who have ever asked for anything in the history of the country."

The results of last week's male voting show the magnitude of the forces of evil ranged against the justice of equal citizenship, and the urgent need for women to have direct power to counteract them in the Eastern as well as the Western States of the Union. We are still in the midst of our fight, and though victory is delayed for us as for some of our American sisters, we have no doubt as to the ultimate triumph of woman suffrage.

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

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Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

HEADQUARTER NOTES.

Dramatic Lecture-Recital.

Next Sunday afternoon Miss Clara Reed will give her lecture-recital of Stephen Phillips' masterpiece, "Herod," at the Bijou Theatre, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. The chair will be taken promptly at 3.30 by Miss Helena Normanton, B.A., and the programme will include violin solos by Miss Frances M. Orme, accompanied by Miss Ailsa Craig. The proceeds are to go to the funds of the Women's Freedom League, and we rely on the support of our members to make this Sunday afternoon activity an unqualified success. Tea will be served after the performance. Tickets can be obtained now at 144, High Holborn, W.C., or at the doors of the Bijou Theatre, Sunday afternoon, at 2s. and 1s. each.

Wednesday Afternoon Meetings.

The Wednesday afternoon meetings of Nov. 17 and 24 at St. George's Vestry, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. (entrance in Little Russell-street) will be of special interest. On the 17th the speakers will be Mr. John Scurr and Mrs. Tanner, who has chosen as her subject "Our Day." The chair will be taken by Mrs. Mustard at 3.30. On November 24 the Rev. Charles Ord Warlow, rector of St. George's, Bloomsbury, will speak on "National Co-operation and Private Competition," and the other speaker will be Miss Nina Boyle. Both these meetings should be well attended, and we appeal to our readers to make them known as widely as possible.

Our Green, White and Gold Fair.

Help is coming in from all directions, and if all members and sympathisers will further assist us by taking tickets, sending us a donation towards expenses, or gifts for our various stalls, and in every case by advertising it well among their friends and acquaintances, our Fair on the 26th and 27th at Caxton Hall will be a great success. Besides our ordinary stalls, we are making a speciality of stalls for comforts for sufferers in the war—for wounded soldiers and sailors, for British prisoners of war, for nurses in Serbia, and for Belgian, French, and Polish refugees—and we shall be most grateful if our readers will collect from their friends articles for these stalls, and send them to Mrs. Fisher or Miss Mitchell at this Office. Among the special performers who have most kindly and generously promised help are Madame Levinskaya (the famous Russian pianist), Miss Edythe Olive, Miss Clara Reed, and others, whose names will be announced next week. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

TRENCH CIGARETTES.

At recent "Wednesdays" the sum of £1 was collected by Miss Murray specially for tobacco for the Front; 600 "Votes for Women" cigarettes have now been dispatched to the "London Scottish," with the best wishes of the Women's Freedom League.

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POLITICAL AND MILITANT.

The Women's Freedom League has addressed a strong protest to Lord Lansdowne and the Prime Minister on the subject of the proposed alteration of the constitutional basis of the franchise embodied in the Bill which Lord Willoughby de Broke introduced in the House of Lords and then withdrew at the request of Lord Lansdowne, who asked that the matter should be left in the hands of the Government. The Bill contained clauses whose object was to bestow the franchise on all members of His Majesty's forces who took part in the active defence of their country.

The Women's Freedom League pointed out that the basis of representation was not this or that form of service, but the right of the governed to control their Government; and that to introduce an entirely new principle, at a time of great excitement, when half the electorate was absent and when the country could not be consulted, was in the last degree dangerous and unconstitutional.

WOMEN IN WAR TIME.

To Drive Trams in Glasgow.

Glasgow again takes the lead, and is training women to drive the municipal trams. When the final test is passed, after thirty days' driving, they will be recognised as competent drivers—and, it is to be hoped, paid the same salary as competent men.

Motor 'Bus Conductors in London.

Messrs. Tilling's are the pioneers in London in employing women as conductors on motor 'buses. The women are doing their work well, showing smartness and good knowledge of routes.

The L.C.C. propose to pay women tram conductors 5s. a day and 6d. a day war bonus. In Manchester, 400 applications by women for the post of tram conductors had been received up to last Saturday.

For the Duration of the War.

A protest was made against the employment of women in their field of labour by the Licensed Vehicle Workers' Union at the Clerkenwell-road Club and Institute on October 28, but the Union decided to admit them as conductors on London trams and 'buses during the war. A resolution passed expressed the delegates' willingness to accept the innovation as an expedient for the period of the war only, but objecting to the principle. It was added that this was only subject to the licences being issued from Scotland Yard under the same conditions as those to male conductors, and also subject to the same wages being paid and women carrying out the same work.

Women Bank Clerks.

It is nothing new for the Press to do injustice to women, so it is not surprising that the testimony of a bank manager that women clerks are, for the most part, very satisfactory, but they are not quick, appears in a London daily paper, with the headline "Slow Women Bank Clerks." Similar treatment was meted out recently to women tram conductors in Glasgow; their failings made prominent; their good qualities kept in the background. The bankers, however, do not seem to be doubtful of women's work; one large bank already employs 350 women, and expects shortly to engage 100 more.

An Electrical Engineer.

The *Electrical Times* sets its contemporaries a good example by recording a woman's work as an electrical engineer, with the headline: "More Power to the Ladies." It says: "Miss May Trail has accepted the complete charge of a 50 h.p. gas engine, two dynamos, accumulators, and other plant

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belonging to the Studley Horticultural College power station. She supplies electricity for lighting, for the laundry, the dairy plant, and the incubators—if eggs have fallen into horticulture, that is the hens' fault, not ours. Miss Trail releases an electrician-in-charge, who is now making torpedoes; hence she has caused torpedoes to be made, from which it follows that she has sunk, or is about to sink, her own particular share of German cruisers and battleships. When one remembers the thousands of women who are conducting tramcars, working lifts, lathes and drilling machines, making ammunition, and otherwise releasing men for the war, our debt to the sex must surely be admitted by the most adamant."

Gas Meter Inspector.

Success again! The good work done by women in indexing gas meters has moved the South Metropolitan Gas Company to increase the number employed to more than 70. They are also being trained to undertake the new system of keeping incandescent burners in order on payment of a fixed sum by consumers.

Business Training for Women.

The Clerical Occupations Committee is actively at work considering the steps which should be taken to employ women or men over military age to release clerical workers for the army. A similar committee is at work in Scotland. With the assistance of the Board of Education and other educational authorities, it is proposed to establish immediately in all large centres, classes for the quick training of young women in the simplest elements of business. By this means it is hoped to make available local reservoirs of female clerical labour to meet local needs. All communications for the committee should be sent to the Secretary, Mr. M. H. Whitelegge, Home Office, S.W.

London Fire Women.

In co-operation with the London Fire Brigade, Mrs. Charlesworth, Colonel of the Women's Volunteer Reserve, states that in practically every borough of London and outlying districts women are organised to be called upon in case of need in air raids. These women have been of great assistance to firemen unofficially; it is now proposed that a small squad be attached to each fire station.

Fighting in Serbia.

In Serbian trenches many women, children, and aged men are acting as bomb throwers, and are quite experienced in hand grenade work. Dr. Momchiloff, President of the Bulgarian Parliament, has declared that as the civil population is taking a share in the struggle, it has been necessary to annihilate whole villages

SAYINGS AND DOINGS OF THE WEEK.

The Prime Minister's tribute in the House of Commons last week to Nurse Edith Cavell ended thus: "It has taught the bravest man among us a supreme lesson in courage. And in this United Kingdom and throughout the Dominions of the Crown there are thousands of such women. *A year ago we did not know it.* (Italics ours.)"

"Lord Kitchener has gone to survey at close quarters the whole situation in the Eastern theatre of war. . . . Be the journey long or short, we shall not falter. . . ." Prime Minister at Guildhall, November 9.

A Bill has been passed for prolonging the life of this Parliament during the war; there will be no General Election early next year.

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The Gallery of the Fine Art Society, 148, New Bond Street, is one of the most interesting spots in London at the moment. It is there that the water colour sketches of Mr. Norman Wilkinson, R.I., make real the heroic exploits of our fighting men on the Gallipoli Peninsula. How many anxious hearts will turn to them to realise the surroundings in which their loved ones are carrying on a desperate struggle. Mr. Wilkinson's sketches are records of incidents actually witnessed during his four months' service as Paymaster in the Navy. "Anzac" becomes, through his brush, more than ever an "achievement of the impossible," and in all the varied operations by sea, land, and air which he paints, one scarcely knows whether to admire most the artist's skill in reproducing the light and colour of the scene, his successful struggle with heat, sand, and flies or his calm determination in the midst of danger to record faithfully events which are making history. The sketches will be reproduced in colours in his book, "The Dardenelles," to be published next month by Longmans. Congratulations to the artist and to his mother, a member of the Hampstead Branch of the Women's Freedom League.

The many friends of Mrs. Percy Dearmer desire to commemorate her life and heroic self-sacrifice. All interested are asked to communicate with Mrs. Henderson, 2, Hogarth Hill, Hendon, N.W.

Earlier shopping, earlier theatres, earlier concerts are to be the order of the winter.

English suffragists have humour and a sense of proportion.—Sketch.

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THE VOTE.

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To the Editor—on all editorial matters.
To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.
To the Secretary—on all other business, including VOTE orders, printing, and merchandise, etc.

Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.
Telegrams: "DESPARD," Museum, London.

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

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

FANCY FRANCHISE.

In the later sixties, when Mr. Disraeli was seeking for some form of reform of the franchise which should not terrify the Tories and yet should accomplish that process of "dishing the Whigs" on which he was bent, the "fancy franchise" was the phrase on which some of his most hopeful ventures were wrecked. The fancy franchise did not embody any of the principles on which representation is based; and the astounding compromise arrived at later—the household qualification, which was only carried by the assistance of the "Tea-room party" of Whigs—had this to recommend it that it established some definite idea of what that much discussed ideal, "a stake in the country," might be supposed to be. Service to the country was never at any time accepted by the constitutionalists as giving a claim to representation.

Lord Willoughby de Broke's Bill, by which he endeavoured to secure that all men on active service should automatically be placed on the voters' role, is an indirect attack on the whole principle of representative Government. The right of the governed is to consent to their Government, its forms and its restrictions, but to grant representation for service, leaving it to the Government to decide what forms of service shall be so rewarded, is to shake the whole constitutional fabric to its very foundations.

We would not be thought to deny to the gallant men who defend our shores and our liberties the claim to noble rewards. But we think the proposed return for their service will not rouse any great enthusiasm in the ranks of navy or army, new or old. A more liberal scale of pensions, and freedom from anxiety about the provision for wife or mother, aged father or infant child, would reach the fighting man's heart more quickly. A relief from the toll of 7d. a day when reduced by dangerous duty to seek the unwelcome refuge of military hospital, might be a more practical acknowledgement of the nation's debt. To tamper with the constitution while half the electorate is on naval or military duty, and when the Government expressly declares that it will not tolerate a general election (so that the country cannot be consulted on this grave matter); and to take advantage, for this purpose, of a time of great popular excitement when appeals to emotion have unusual force, is unfair, unsporting and unstatesmanlike.

We are tempted to wonder why, in the long, long list of Britain's wars, the unenfranchised conditions of the fighting men, and still worse, of that neglected, despised, and injured class, their wives and families, has not engaged the emotion of noble

lords long ere this. But emotion is a tricky thing. It is impervious to sense, to justice, to logic. It is a law unto itself. It has amazing lapses. The politicians who would undermine the constitution to-day to pay a compliment to the fighting man have let many a fighting man of a bygone day die in the workhouse, or groan away his life on a starvation pension. The episode of Miss Cavell is a strange illustration of this unreliability. Miss Cavell faced big risks for a big purpose, refusing to obey unjust government imposed by force, and continuing in her defiance in spite of warnings. She faced her risks "like a man," and she took the penalty "like a man." The men and the Press organs, who to-day rave that it was murder, are in some cases the same as those who sneered at certain British women who would not take penalties "like men"; who shouted in the House of Commons "Let them die."

Mr. Bernard Shaw suggests that if the Prime Minister and the Government really feel what they have said they feel about Miss Cavell, a fitting tribute would be to enfranchise her sex. No one has brought a bill in to that effect, and been asked to "leave the matter in the hands of the Government." Mr. Asquith has distinguished himself by the statement, in the peroration of his "great speech," that "a year ago we did not know we had such women." What excuse can Mr. Asquith find for that ignorance? How dared he talk of them, and govern them, and deal with their interests, when he floundered in such profound darkness in regard to them? And yet we cannot accept his plea of "Not Guilty, through ignorance." It was his own favourite and favoured colleague, the gitted McKenna, who assured the Let-them-die gentlemen in the House of Commons that if any one of "those women" were allowed to die, forty more would arise to take their place! Mr. Asquith's clap-trap is well matched with Lord Willoughby de Broke's emotion.

These gentlemen would be well advised to leave the constitution alone and to attend to the matter in hand—the conduct of the war. The constitution claims their attention, the form it should take should be to see that it is rightly and fairly administered and that women citizens are no longer shut out from its rights and privileges.

C. NINA BOYLE.

HOPE FOR HOLLAND.

According to a correspondent of *The Times* (Nov. 9):—
"The Dutch Government has just brought in a Bill for the revision of the Constitutional Law of the Netherlands. The revision specially relates to those articles of the Constitution which deal with the franchise for the Second Chamber (House of Commons), the Provincial Councils (County Councils), and Municipal Councils."

"It is proposed by the Bill to extend the right of voting to all the male citizens who have reached the age of 23 and are not excluded by certain disabilities, and also to female citizens who have reached the same age. This, however, does not mean that the franchise will be made universal immediately for all the women in the country. The revision of the Constitutional Law will only introduce the principle of woman suffrage, while a further revision of the existing Electoral Law, or the introduction of a separate Bill later on, will stipulate how far the right of woman suffrage is to be extended. The revision of the Constitutional Law introduces at the same time proportional representation in the different representative bodies mentioned above."

"It should be noted that in Holland the members of the First Chamber (the Senate) are elected by the members of the different Provincial Councils."

WOMEN ARE ENFRANCHISED IN—

Australia, New Zealand, Tasmania, The Isle of Man, Finland, Norway, Denmark; United States, in the following States: Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, Idaho, Washington, California, Oregon, Kansas, Arizona, Alaska, Illinois.

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OUR OPEN COLUMN.

*** Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.
As the following Article deals with a question of peculiar importance, the Editor specially invites discussion.

Arms and the Character.

Miss Normanton's article on disarmament and your invitation to discuss the subject impel me to press a reason in favour of it, which, though often implied, is not often enough directly urged, i.e., the wholesale demoralisation to character involved alike in their invention and the use of modern scientific weapons.

This was vividly brought home to me early this year by the visit to Oak Tree House of three Belgian gentlemen, one of whom—an officer—brought with him a bulky package, which proved to contain a collection of weapons picked up on the battlefields of Flanders. They included portions of various kinds of bombs, an ordinary bayonet, a German saw-bayonet, a French flechette (aeroplane arrow), and more bullets of different sorts and sizes than we troubled to count.

We examined and handled them all, while our friends disclaimed on their admirable virtues. The size and weight of the saw-bayonet, the thickness and sharpness of its teeth, appeared in their brutal ruthlessness typically German. The delicate shape and refined efficiency of the flechette were equally French. The scientific mechanism of the bombs was a revelation to the uninitiated; and a discourse on the bullets, with a description of the kind of wounds they inflict—in some cases so poisonous as to preclude recovery—closed this unexpected and interesting exhibition. I had only once before seen anything in the least comparable to it, and that was a collection of mediæval instruments of torture; and it struck me forcibly that mankind has not advanced, morally, one whit since those bad old days. These modern arms unite the savage cruelty of the Middle Ages and the inventive resources of the latest science, that is all; while machinery produces an output in them unknown to our ancestors, and our competitive commercial system has created a vested interest in that production which spreads its net over the whole world.

This is familiar ground; but what I had seen enforced the further lesson of which I have spoken—the demoralisation of character involved in their invention and manufacture alike during peace and war, and their use in actual warfare. Were a private individual to invent and make some fiendish weapon to satisfy some possible future private grudge, he would be consigned to Broadmoor. Yet the inventions of arms for the public slaughter called war are not only under no stigma as criminal lunatics, they are the "patriots" of whatever nation they belong to. In every country, in times of peace, men sit in their studies and laboratories, coolly and quietly thinking out methods for the extermination on the largest possible scale of their fellows, and all without a shadow of provocation.

Lastly, what are we to say of modern arms in actual use? Here it is better to quote the opinion of a brave fighting man than for a peace-loving woman to give what might be considered merely prejudiced and ignorant views. Describing the



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flechette, Mr. Grahame-White says, in "Aircraft in the Great War: A Record and Study," "There have been protests against the use of this weapon. The fact that the arrows fall silently and unseen gives them a sinister and treacherous aspect. Yet, they represent . . . the modern science of war, and in this science, which knows no sentiment, the most effective weapon is that which will kill most men. Modern artillery fire is inhuman. . . There is no heat of conflict, no wrath to palliate the slaughter." And again: "War is ghastly, whether you kill your foe with a submarine torpedo, blow him to pieces with long range shells, or strike him down with a bomb or arrow from the sky. . . The ordinary combatant has no chance of avoiding or replying to the flechette; but neither has he to the submarine or to long range artillery. When war became scientific, it ceased to be sportsmanlike." (The italics are mine.)

This, then, is the moral achievement of science in war—to place in the hands of brave men the weapons of cowardice. For this, as for all the other myriad horrors and evils of war, I agree with Miss Normanton that there is but one cure: "the entire abolition of armaments throughout the world."

WINIFRED HOLIDAY.

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Green, White and Gold Fair ?

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WOMEN AND THE FOOD SUPPLY.

The important question of Women and the Food Supply was brought before our "Wednesday" gathering last week by Mrs. Montefiore. Mrs. Clark, who presided, pointed out that in early days when men were engaged in the art of war women initiated the art of agriculture. Referring to the waste in military camps, she said that rations were indented five days in advance, no matter what happened to the men, but it had just been discovered that this method was unnecessary and wasteful. Mrs. Montefiore said that ill health was largely a matter of food supply, and the time would come when ill health would be looked upon as a disgrace. Although woman's place is the home, women cannot control the quality of food supplied to the home. The British Government had found time to pass special legislation to suspend the Pure Milk Act on the ground that in war time there were not sufficient men to work it. Why not women? So it was still possible in this country for cows to be milked under most insanitary conditions. In Denmark cows were groomed as our finest horses are, and milkers (men and women) are required to be properly clean. Mrs. Montefiore summed up her suggestions as follows:—

1. Organised women, during the war, should meet to consider the question of the quantity and quality of the food supply. Through economic pressure, the question is brought to the fore in war time; it is women's business to take advantage of the economic pressure to make their reasonable demands felt by Government.
2. As an outcome of the Conference, women should demand:—
 - a. The immediate reinforcement of the Pure Milk Act and the inspection of all premises (and the workers) where dairy produce is made for sale to the public.
 - b. The passing of a Pure Food Act on the lines of the Australian Act, which does much to prevent the sale of adulterated food. (Women vote in Australia.)
 - c. The establishment of Municipal or Government analytical laboratories where girls should be trained in the analysis of all foodstuffs.
 - d. The passing of an Act forbidding the sale of bleached flour.
 - e. The abolition of taxes on tea and sugar, as pressing cruelly on the poorest households in the land, and the substitution of a tax on all advertisements.
 - f. The placing of women on the Register Bill promised to men to be brought in by the Government at the end of the war.

Miss Boyle after warmly supporting Mrs. Montefiore's demand that women should have power to control the food supply of the nation, dealt with the Prime Minister's speech in the House of Commons the previous day, and commented scathingly upon his declaration, in his tribute to Nurse Edith Cavell's supreme example of courage, that "there are thousands of such women but a year ago we did not know it." Mr. Asquith and his fellows have only themselves to blame for their "colossal ignorance"; it has needed an appalling war to open their eyes.

JUMBLE SALE.

The London Branches Council is arranging a jumble sale for Saturday, December 4, at Tolmer's-square Institute. As this jumble sale is our chief source of income, we hope that members will collect as many things as possible. Articles of any kind are welcome, and parcels may be sent now to Mrs. Fisher, c/o The Despard Arms, 123, Hampstead-road, N.W.

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I. C. TIPPETT.

THE DESPARD ARMS.

We are most grateful to Mrs. Despard for her kind gift of quilts and towels for our bedrooms; to Mrs. and Miss Gibson for strips of carpet, chair, and oil stove. Will other friends help in furnishing them—cupboards and chests of drawers urgently needed?

COME AND HAVE SUPPER at The Despard Arms next Sunday (after the lecture-recital of "Herod") and hear Miss J. E. Barrow's talk on "Sairey Gamp versus Florence Nightingale"—free to all customers, 7.30 p.m. Special Concert on Sunday, November 21, at 7.30 p.m. Silver collection.

FACTS WORTH NOTING.

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How bright your fire is! Where do you get your coal? This is the usual comment of visitors to Headquarters, to the Despard Arms, and to the houses of many members. There is one answer: "From William Clarke and Son, 341, Gray's Inn Road, W.C." Clarke's coal speaks for itself!

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.
LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE

Hampstead Road. Miss T. E. Barrow on "Sairey Gamp v. Florence Nightingale," 7.30 p.m. Free to customers.
 Monday, November 15.—BOWES PARK, Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
 Wednesday, November 17.—PUBLIC MEETING, St. George's Vestry, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. (entrance in Little Russell-street). Speakers: Mr. John Scurr and Mrs. Tanner. 3.30 p.m. Chair: Mrs. Mustard.
 Thursday, November 18.—POSTER PARADE, to advertise Green, White, and Gold Fair, leave Office at 10.45 a.m.
 Friday, November 19.—DRAWING-ROOM MEETING, 13, Temple Fortune-court, Golder's Green (by kind invitation of Miss Hodge), 3 p.m., to meet Miss Underwood.
 Saturday, November 20.—CROYDON, Whist Drive, at W.F.L. Office, 32a, The Arcade, High-street, 6.30 p.m.
 Sunday, November 21.—DESPARD ARMS, 123, Hampstead-road. Concert, 7.30 p.m. Silver collection.
 Tuesday, November 23.—POSTER PARADE, leave Office at 2.15 p.m.
 Wednesday, November 24.—PUBLIC MEETING, St. George's Vestry, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. (entrance in Little Russell-street), 3.30 p.m. Speakers: The Rev. C. Ord Warlow, on "National Co-operation v. Private Competition," and Miss Boyle.
 Thursday, November 25.—POSTER PARADE, leave Office at 10.45 a.m.

Friday and Saturday, November 26th and 27th. Green, White and Gold Fair, Caxton Hall. 2.30 p.m. Stalls, Women's Orchestra, Ju-jitsu Exhibition, Dancing, Musical and Dramatic Entertainments, Nursing Exhibition, etc. Tickets of Admiss on: 1/- before 5 p.m.; after 5 p.m., 6d.

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PROVINCES.

Monday, November 15.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Public Meeting, W.F.L. Rooms, 231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road, 7.30. Speaker: Miss Purvis.

Tuesday, November 16.—LIVERPOOL, Public Meeting, Hardman Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle, on "Our Bounden Duty." Chair: John Edwards, Esq. PORTSMOUTH, Members' Meeting, 17, Lombard-street, 7.30 p.m.

Thursday, November 18.—READING, Branch Meeting, parlour, Palmer Hall, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Ruth Hinder. IPSWICH, Meeting, 22, Queen-street, 3.30 p.m.

Friday, November 19.—ANFIELD, Branch Meeting, 139, Oakfield-road, Liverpool. Speaker: Miss Boyle.

Saturday, November 20.—WEST HARTLEPOOL. Speaker: Miss Boyle.

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Monday, November 22.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Public Meeting, W.F.L. Rooms, 231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle.

Monday, November 29.—MIDDLESBROUGH, "At Home" (in aid of Children's Clothing Fund), W.F.L. Rooms, 231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road, 7.30 p.m.

Tuesday, November 30.—PORTSMOUTH, Café Chantant, Unitarian Schoolroom, High-street, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle. Tickets, 6d. each.

SCOTLAND

Friday, November 19.—EDINBURGH, Assembly Hall, The Mound, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: M. Vandervelde, the Lord Advocate, and Miss Murray. Chair: Dr. Sarolea. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., 6d., and 3d.

WALES.

Friday, November 5.—CARDIFF, Branch Meeting, Welsh Industries, Queen-street, 8 p.m. Report of Conference, and discussion of last month's paper.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Monday, November 8.—NATIONAL BRITISH WOMEN'S TEMPERANCE ASSOCIATION, St. George's Hall, Wimbledon. Speaker: Miss Boyle, on "Woman's Duty during the War," 8 p.m.

Sunday, November 14.—LIVERPOOL, Church of the New Ideal. Speaker: Miss Boyle on "Our Priceless Possession."

Wednesday, November 17.—LIVERPOOL, Women's Social Guild, 7.45 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle, on "What is Reform?"

Sunday, November 28.—BLACKFRIARS' MISSION & STAMFORD-STREET CHAPEL, Stamford-street, S.E. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard, "Women's Work in War Time." SOUTH LONDON ETHICAL SOCIETY, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell New-road, S.E., 7 p.m. Speaker: Miss Boyle, on "Men and Manners."

"SAVE THE BABIES!"

With reference to our report last week of the Middlesbrough meeting, Mrs. Schofield Coates writes to the Editor of THE VOTE as follows:—"Will you make a correction concerning the 'Save the Babies' meeting held in the Middlesbrough Town Hall on October 26, of which a report appears in THE VOTE of November 5? The meeting was organised by the Middlesbrough and District Women's Council, to which the Middlesbrough Branch of the Women's Freedom League is affiliated. Many other women's organisations are also affiliated, and the great success attained was the result of the joint work of all.—Yours faithfully, A. SCHOFIELD COATES.

(Hon. Sec. Middlesbrough and District Women's Council.)

We regret that our information of last week led to the credit for the success of the meeting being given only to the Women's Freedom League. We warmly congratulate the Middlesbrough and District Women's Council, as organisers of the meeting, on bringing in so many women interested in the welfare of the community.

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FRIDAY,
NOV. 12,
1915

THE VOTE

ONE
PENNY
WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

OUR TREASURY,

BRANCH NOTES.

Amount previously acknowledged: October, 1907 to
December, 1914, £23,135 5s. 7d.

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged ...			1,363 16 11
<i>Special Emergency War Fund.</i> —			
Miss Eunice Murray ...	4	0	0
Anonymous ...	2	0	0
Mrs. Walter Carey ...	2	0	0
W. R. Snow, Esq. ...	1	0	0
Mrs. Mallalue ...		8	0
Mrs. Saul Solomon ...		7	6
R. Bentley Goddard, Esq. ...		6	0
Miss E. Gore Browne ...		5	0
Mrs. Sholl ...		5	0
Mrs. Penn ...		1	6
Bowes Park Branch ...		1	6
Clapham Branch ...		2	0
East London Branch ...	11	6	
Hackney Branch ...		4	0
Harrow Branch ...		6	0
Herne Hill Branch ...		6	0
Hornsey Branch ...	2	0	4
Mid-London Branch ...		14	0
Stamford Hill & Tottenham Branch ...		10	0
Tufnell Park Branch ...		12	0
<i>Green, White, and Gold Fair.</i> —			
Miss C. Harvey ...		10	0
Miss E. Hunt ...		10	0
Mrs. A. W. Thomson ...			1 0 0
Miss J. Bunten, per Glasgow Branch ...			20 0 0
Mrs. Schofield Coates ...			5 0 0
Miss M. I. Saunders ...			3 0 9
Mrs. F. Tucker ...			1 0 0
Miss Hargrave ...			6 6
Miss F. A. Underwood ...			5 0
Miss M. H. Saunders ...			5 0
The Misses McKinley ...			2 6
Mrs. Sproson ...			2 0
Capt. G. C. T. Giles ...			2 0
Miss Josephine Watterson ...			1 0
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Office Sales ...			3 16 4
<i>Branches. Capitation Fees.</i> —			
Cardiff ...			4 3 1
Harrow ...			6 0
Edinburgh ...			1 0 0
Montgomery Boroughs ...			1 5 0
			6 0
	£1,421	19	5

Edinburgh—Suffrage Shop.—90, Lothian Road.

The "At Home" on November 3 was well attended by members and friends. Miss Munro presided, and the tea was in the capable hands of Mrs. Martin. As the speaker of the evening, Mrs. Chalmers Watson, M.D., was unable to be present, Lady Ramsay very kindly took her place, at a day's notice. Her subject was "The Spiritual Aspect of the War." She spoke of the great religious awakening among our soldiers; that women also share in this deepening of spiritual life, witness their courage, resourcefulness, and self-sacrifice. Women had so risen to their opportunities that well-known opponents of Votes for Women were now convinced of the justice of their Cause. Lady Ramsay was heartily thanked for her inspiring address.

Glasgow. Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's Road.

At a meeting of the Glasgow Council on Thursday, November 4, it was decided to hold a whist drive to aid the funds of the Branch. The Masonic Hall, West Regent-street, has been taken for December 17, and it is hoped that the members will support the Council by attending. The tickets are 2s. 6d., and may be had at the Office, or from the District Conveners. At the Branch Meeting on November 4 Miss McLelland gave a most interesting report of the Conference. Mrs. Wilson read the financial report and made an appeal for funds to carry on our work. The reports of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps and the Women's Freedom League National Service Organisation were also considered.

Ipswich

We are hard at work for the Green, White, and Gold Fair on November 26 and 27. Please send all contributions by November 20. We have had urgent messages from the War Hospital Depot asking us to tease tow for splint padding, which is very badly needed. We have done our utmost, and two members have undertaken further help; more workers for this and other demands are urgently needed at our Thursday afternoon meetings at 22, Queen-street.

Portsmouth and Southsea.

A Café Chantant at the Unitarian Schoolroom, High-street, has been arranged for Tuesday, November 30, at 7.30 p.m. Madame Prior has kindly promised to provide the musical part of the programme, and Miss Boyle will be the speaker. Tickets are 6d. each, and will include light refreshments. Members are urged to make this effort a great success.

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THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE will hold Public Meetings at the Vestry Hall, St. George's, Hart-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. Entrance in Little Russell-st. (Near Holborn, British Museum and Tottenham Court-rd. Tube stations) every Wednesday afternoon, at 3.30 p.m. Nov. 17: Speakers: Mrs. Tanner on "Our Day," and Mr. John Scurr. Chair: Mrs. Mustard.

MEMORIAL HALL, Manchester.
Wednesday, November 17, at 7.30 p.m. Recital of Works for Two Pianofortes, by Hope Squire and Frank Merrick. Tickets 5s. (reserved), 2s. 6d. and 1s., from Messrs. Forsyth Bros., 126 Deansgate, and at the door.

Miscellaneous Advertisement Charges.

FIFTEEN WORDS 1s.; every additional 7 words or part of 7 words 6d. **FOUR** consecutive insertions for the price of **THREE**.—Address, The Advt. Manager, THE VOTE, 144, High Holborn. Latest time for receiving copy, Monday morning each week.

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