

The Suffragette

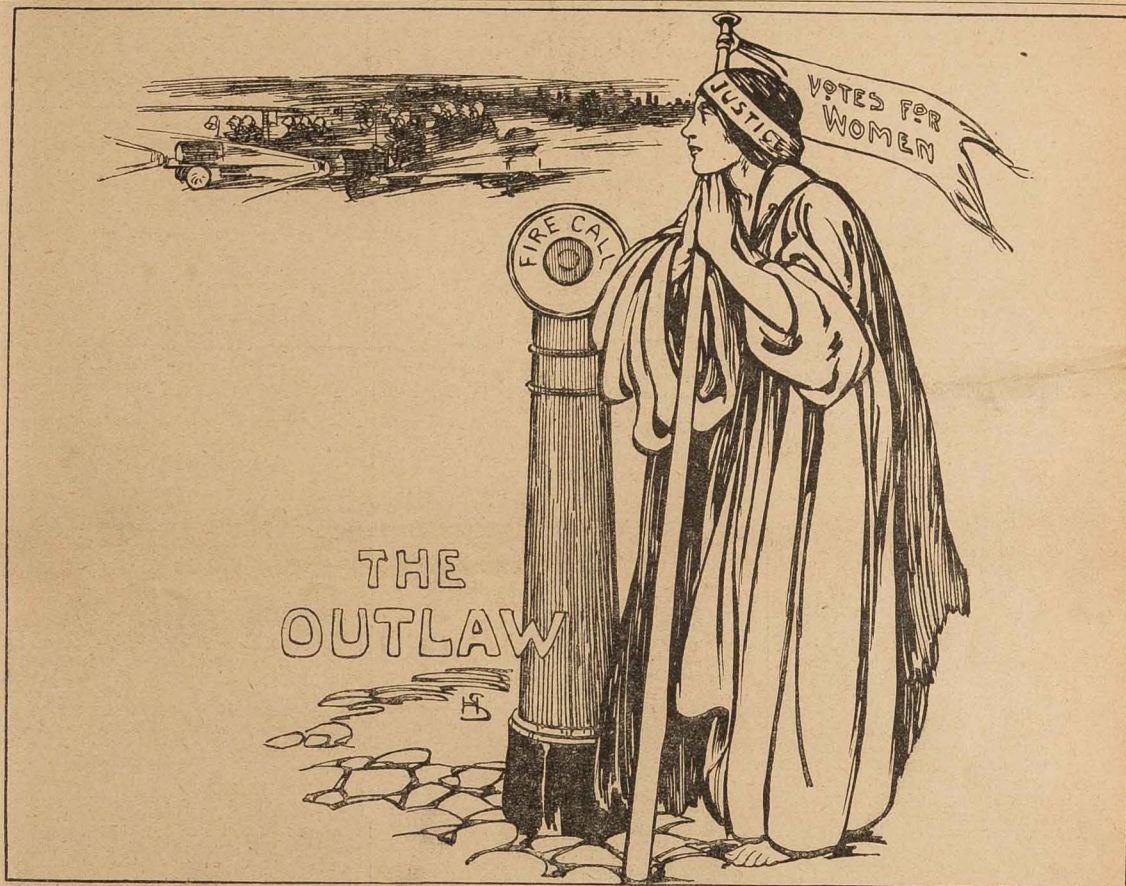
EDITED BY CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

The Official Organ of the Women's Social and Political Union.

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THE END JUSTIFIES THE MEANS.

To the British Public: An Open Letter from the Suffragettes.

DEAR SIR,—We address you as "Sir," because when people speak of the public they mean the enfranchised men and such women as are prepared to accept and share without question any opinions which those men may happen to express.

We are being told that you, the British Public, are alienated from the cause of Votes for Women by the letter-burning tactics recently pursued by certain Suffragettes. A little while ago it was the breaking of shop windows that was supposed to excite your horror and indignation; but now that the pillar-boxes are being attacked, you are said to have forgotten the sufferings of the shopkeepers, and to be absorbed in resentful contemplation of your own.

This information as to your state of mind comes from one or two politicians and from the daily newspapers, so you may not really so completely, as they think, have forgotten the fight that your ancestors made for your Vote, and you may not be so very angry, after all.

But supposing you are in truth very angry and very resentful because of the burning of letters—what has the Suffrage cause lost by that? Were you of any use to it, and was your sympathy of any use to it in the old days? Certainly not! The fact is that from a practical point of view your anger and your irritation are very often more to be desired than your approval.

Your approval in the majority of cases leads to nothing. There are two ways of moving you to action. One is to stir your emotions by means of some appalling tragedy, dramatically described for you by the Press. The other is to make you thoroughly uncomfortable! The more effective of these two ways is to make you uncomfortable!

Your sympathy and your emotion often fade away before any-

thing has been done, whereas a continuing inconvenience, such as Suffragist militancy, never lets you rest until you have performed your duty.

The Trade Unionists know the importance and the necessity of making you uncomfortable. They did this in the coal strike, and they got a Minimum Wage Bill. The railway men have done it, and they have got Driver Knox's grievance redressed.

The Suffragettes are making you uncomfortable, and what you ought to do is to compel the Government to redress the women's political grievance, just as you compelled the Government to act in the case of the miners and the railway men.

Why don't you do it? To say that you have lost too much through letter-burning is no excuse, because you lost far more in the coal strike. Perhaps you will tell us that letter-burning is so trivial a matter that you do not think it worth while to make the Government give Votes to Women. Very well; if that is so, then grin and bear the letter-burning like a man. You cannot expect the Suffragettes to give you a quiet life unless you in return will give them the Vote.

We put all this to you fairly and squarely, and we know that you respect us for our plain speaking.

The Suffragettes are your friends, and will be your allies and comrades in the days when women have the Vote and can help to govern the country better. We have been very patient with you hitherto. Even now we feel no bitterness. When all is over we will give you a free pardon for your neglect of our interests and liberties. But there can be no peace without honour—no end to fighting till the Vote is won.—Yours for peace or for war,

THE SUFFRAGETTES.

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The Suffragette, LINCOLN'S INN HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON.

Telegraphic Address: "WOSPOLL, LONDON." Telephone: 2724 HOLBORN.

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A Review of the Week.

A Sham Fight.

The would-be wreckers of the Suffrage Cause are very active just now. Mr. Lloyd George, realising that the Government's plot against Woman Suffrage has been fully exposed, is busying himself in the attempt to restore the false confidence which at one time existed in the minds of the non-militant Suffragists.

Sir Edward Grey.

Sir Edward Grey has, as usual, come forward to eke out Mr. Lloyd George's very attenuated reputation for political honesty, but this trick has been played one too often, and Sir Edward Grey is now in very little, if any, better repute than Lloyd George himself.

Letting the Cat Out of the Bag.

Mr. Hugh Law, M.P., the renegade Suffragist, writing on the Nationalist attitude towards Woman Suffrage, says that the rumours that the passage of Woman Suffrage will cause Ministerial resignation and the consequent destruction of the Government are so persistent that it is impossible not to be affected by them.

Mr. Asquith's Latest Statement.

The nature of Mr. Asquith's reply to the question put to him by Mr. Leif Jones in the House of Commons, has confirmed our worst suspicions as to the Government's attitude and intentions.

latest statement of Mr. Asquith, finally seals the fate of the women's amendments, and Suffragists who continue to pursue a peaceable and trustful policy are simply playing into the hands of the enemy.

Words Not Deeds.

Mr. Keir Hardie has an inveterate partiality for words as distinguished from deeds. His advice to those who want votes for women is to talk instead of fight. Trust Asquith and hold more meetings is his plan for getting votes for women passed through the House of Commons.

A few days ago Mr. Keir Hardie flatly denied that the Labour Members of Parliament are strong enough to defeat the Government. On Friday, December 13, it was the Labour Members, and the Labour Members alone, who saved the Government from defeat.

In the Toils of Liberalism.

The Labour Leader, in an editorial on the prospects of Woman Suffrage declares: "We must make it clear to M.P.s that it will cost them dear any longer to deny political liberty to women."

Mrs. Leigh's Victory.

Mrs. Leigh's astonishing power of conducting a case in a Court of Law, and the weakness of the evidence brought against her in support of the hatchet-throwing charge, caused the jury to disagree, and Mrs. Leigh herself to escape the conviction and imprisonment which the Government desired for her.

Application to the Lord-Lieutenant.

As a result of the trial, Mrs. Leigh has been bound over, in her own recognisances of £50, to appear for trial at the next City Commission if called upon. The judge, however, questioned the advisability of carrying the case any further, and said, that if the case is to be tried again, the judge who tries it ought to have his notes showing the contradictory statements of the

witnesses for the Crown. Upon the advice of the judge, Mrs. Leigh has, through her solicitor, communicated with the Lord-Lieutenant, applying to be relieved of all obligation to report herself to the police during the time that her licence as a ticket-of-leave convict remains in force.

Death from Forcible Feeding.

At the present moment three women are serving terms of imprisonment. Anxiety as to their position is, if possible, increased by the following report, which has appeared in the daily Press.

An inquest was held at the Letterkenny Lunatic Asylum, County Donegal, on a lunatic named James McGavigan, who died in half an hour after being forcibly fed. A verdict of death from heart failure was returned. It was stated that McGavigan refused supper on Wednesday night and breakfast on Thursday, and that the physician, after trying to induce him to take food, voluntarily fed him by a nasal tube. The patient had not revived a quarter of an hour afterwards, and the attendant then noticed him becoming white. He laid him on the bed, obtained hot jars, and sent for the doctor, who arrived only to find him dead.

The miracle is, that death has not ensued in the case of some of the forcibly fed suffrage prisoners.

The Christmas Sale.

Readers of THE SUFFRAGETTE have still an opportunity of visiting the Christmas Sale at Lincoln's Inn House, which will not close until 8 p.m. on Saturday. Every penny spent at the sale, in addition to supplying a personal need or buying a gift for a friend, goes to swell the campaign fund. This is laying out money to a good purpose indeed! The treasurer of the Women's Social and Political Union, on behalf of all its members, again expresses her thanks to those who have worked so hard to achieve the great success of the Christmas sale.

The Woking Murder.

The fate of the little girl who was decoyed away and murdered at Woking is a tragic reminder of the awful and growing danger to which girl children are exposed. The law and its administration is a positive encouragement to outrages upon these children. Because the man in the Woking case murdered his victim, he will, if he is caught, be hanged, no doubt; but if his offence had stopped short of murder he would very likely have been discharged with a caution or sentenced to a preposterously short term of imprisonment.

Our Prisoners.

We should like to remind our readers that there are still three women in prison. Miss Ker, in Manchester, is serving three months for an attempt to fire a pillar-box; Miss Jane Short four months for breaking the windows of the post office at Hitchin; and Miss Elsie Howe, in Holloway, two months for breaking three-pence-worth of glass and giving a false fire alarm. Everyone should realise that it is imperative for the public to know of the scandalous treatment being meted out to the women by a retrograde Government, and so bring pressure to bear on the Home Secretary to secure their immediate release.

If there are women hunger-striking during the Christmas holidays, when Parliament is not sitting, and it is therefore impossible to bring pressure to bear on Members, it will be the fault of the women, who, while calling themselves Suffragists, are content to sit at home in a state of contemptible inaction, leaving the few to bear the whole brunt of the fight. "Deeds, not words," is the motto of the W.S.P.U., and if every member of the Union does her part there will be no need for these brave women to face the horrible tortures of the hunger strike and forcible feeding. In another decade civilisation will shudder at the thought of what women were forced to suffer to win political freedom.

ORDER IT TO-DAY!

Some people who serve the cause nobly, courageously, unflinchingly, forget to do the little extra service of ordering THE SUFFRAGETTE. Many people who do not do other services might, at any rate, do this one, and add to it by getting others to do the same.

Don't forget how you can help the paper, or how the paper can help you. Don't let others forget. Talk about the paper. Lead it. Distribute it. Discuss it with Leuagants. Get them to display posters of it. Order it to be sent for a year to your friends as a Christmas present. Work at increasing the circulation.

If you are a militant Suffragist we tell you we are proud of our paper. We ask you to buy it and be proud of it too. If you are a constitutional Suffragist, you know what we want. Won't you, in common fairness, read our reasons for the way in which we try to get it? Could you respect people who criticised you or stood aloof from you without hearing your case?

If you are an anti-Suffragist we challenge you to read our paper and controvert it if you can. We give you facts. What do you think of them?

Whoever you are, send your name and address and 6s. 6d. to the Publisher, THE SUFFRAGETTE, Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway, W.C.

If you become a subscriber at once, you will be just in time to begin with our Christmas number, our next Monday!

Don't forget; and, for fear you might forget and afterwards be sorry, send to-day. Send not only for yourself, but for any friend to whom you want to give a year's subscription to THE SUFFRAGETTE as a Christmas present.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

"I WISH I COULD GIVE MORE." HOW IT CAN BE DONE.

All the subscribers to the W.S.P.U. funds say to us: "I wish I could give more." So they can, and without being any poorer for their extra gift. The secret is this—to get new advertisements for THE SUFFRAGETTE, and to keep those advertisements which we have already.

The advertisers pay many pounds a week into the coffers of the Union. This source of income can be increased until THE SUFFRAGETTE becomes a very profitable concern, and a real financial strength to the movement. Therefore, my very serious appeal to every member and friend is this: Induce all the business firms with which you deal to advertise in THE SUFFRAGETTE. Get from each firm a promise to advertise, and then write to our advertisement manager at Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway, W.C. The rest of the transaction will be carried through without any further trouble to yourself.

To get new advertisements is not enough. We must keep our advertisers. The way to keep them is by giving them the preference over rival firms who do not advertise in THE SUFFRAGETTE. We cannot expect business concerns to advertise in our paper at a loss. We must make it clear to them that to advertise with us is a very profitable thing to do. Will every member and friend of the Union, either when making an individual purchase, especially if it is a considerable one, or when opening an account with any firm, inform the management in writing that their custom is given in consequence of the advertisement in THE SUFFRAGETTE?

Let us regard the advertisers in the paper as our allies, and let us in exchange for their support give them ours. We are all obliged to buy food, clothes and other necessities, and we may congratulate ourselves on being able to turn these transactions into account in the service of our Cause. Women are very practical beings, and I know that this scheme for increasing the funds of the Union will appeal most strongly to them. I shall be glad to hear from friends who will help in this important matter.

EMMELINE PARKHURST.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £250,000 FUND.

DECEMBER 4 to DECEMBER 13.

Table listing contributions to the £250,000 fund from December 4 to December 13, 1912. Includes names like Mrs. O. Barrett, Mrs. C. B. Fry, Mrs. S. J. Hedley, etc., and amounts.

Total £140,123 7 0. Note: Items in issue of 13th, Per Miss F. Parker, Mrs. Rolfe should be Mrs. Rolfe, Miss Burt should be Miss Burt, Mrs. Stevenson should be Mrs. Stevenson, etc.

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

FASHIONABLE WRAPPERS.



CHIFFON VELVET REST GOWN (as sketch), made of rich soft chiffon velvet, with Marie Antoinette fichu of nion, finished with chiffon roses at waist, bodice lined with silk. In all fashionable dainty shades ... 98/6



CHIFFON VELVET REST WRAP (as sketch), in one piece, made of soft chiffon velvet, with lace collar, to slip over head and fasten with one hook only. In all shades ... 98/6

In rich quality satin charmeuse 79/6 DEBENHAM & FREEBODY

PREMIER QUESTIONED.

The Franchise Bill.

In the House of Commons on Monday, December 16, Mr. Leif Jones asked whether the Prime Minister is aware that certain Members of the House of Commons believe that the result of carrying an amendment to the Franchise and Registration Bill...

Mr. Croft: Is the right hon. gentleman prepared to assent to a policy which he has described as a "national disaster"?

Thoughts on Our Present Discontent.

By BARRY PAIN. She who used to knit him stockings gives the politicians socks, And the hand that ruled his cradle at his meetings whirls the rocks.

Baptist ministers are learning, though they may admire his grace, There is danger in resembling much the Lloydly Georgian face.

So the sins of Bow and Bromley get vicarious punishment, And a thousand pillar-boxes feel a female discontent;

Christmas, I believe, is coming. Soon its missives will be here, One, with four initials on it, deals with income-tax, I fear!

Haply these may never reach me; haply they are destined yet For the blacking or corrosive of the ardent Suffragette.

Who am I that I should murmur? If it must be, be it so, All I say is, "Thank you, Bromley. And I'm much obliged to Bow."

The above verses appeared in The Pall Mall Gazette of December 11.

Votes for All Women.

If the Suffrage movement had, in fact, been mainly a demand by middle-class women, surely the fault would be on the shoulders of the working women who had not come forward to make their own claim.

TO MEN SYMPATHISERS.

A Trenchant Letter.

GENTLEMEN,—It is the honest opinion of many of you that the women in the adoption of a certain line of action have greatly jeopardised their chances of success.

Out of all the hysteria which has manifested itself during the last few days, one fact emerges with perfect clearness, namely that the intensity of action among the militants is the direct outcome of inaction among sympathisers of both sexes.

Beyond all doubt the women have put up a splendid fight, beyond all doubt if liberty can only be bought at a great price that price has already been paid, and it now becomes the first duty of men to see that which is purchased at so high a cost shall not at last be denied.

CHRISTMAS FAIR—LAST WEEK.

BUY YOUR PRESENTS FROM THE W.S.P.U.

Members who have not yet completed their Christmas purchases are reminded that the last week of the Christmas Fair is at hand. Sales have gone very well this week, but a good stock still remains to be disposed of, affording excellent choice.

The afternoon concerts have continued throughout the week, and, in addition to the artistes already mentioned, the well-known violinist, Miss Annie Godfrey, has generously given her services, and other ladies, including Miss Hannah Lightman and Miss Chappelow, have contributed songs to the programme.

The tea stall is being conducted under the capable management of the Misses Glibster and Mrs. Sadd Brown, the latter, however, relinquishing her place for this week to Mrs. Julie Morris.

The improvised studio, where the "lightning sketch" artists are at work, has been constantly engaged by sitters,

"THE SUFFRAGETTE" CHRISTMAS FAIR.



A snapshot of one of the stalls at the W.S.P.U. Christmas Sale.

For in this struggle women have endured suffering, death, and that dark agony of the outraged soul before which even death seems of small account.

When it can be shown, as, beyond all doubt, in this instance it can be shown, that a Government has met acts of peace with laughter, acts of urgency with hate and cruelty, when, in short, we are confronted with a Cabinet such as we have to-day, it becomes the part of every honest man to see that no longer in the councils of the nation shall that body hold the predominant voice.

It is for this reason that we are calling upon men of all parties to join the Men's Political Union, the members of which are pledged to oppose any Government which does not deal fairly with the women.

CHARLES GRAY. 13, Buckingham-street, Strand.

and a fresh attraction to the Fair for this week will be the daily attendance of a well-known West-end palmist.

Help is earnestly requested for the provision stall, where the demands always exceeds the most ample and continuous supply. Turkeys, game, and fowls are urgently needed for Christmas dinners.

Mrs. Marshall desires to thank most heartily the following kind contributors to the Farm and Provision Stall: Mrs. Archdale, Mrs. Graham, the Misses Dick, Miss K. LeLacheur, Mrs. Littlejohn, Mrs. Marshall, Mrs. Ripley, the Princess Sophia Duleep Singh, Mrs. Gillies, John S. Fitter and Son, Miss Adeline Moses, Miss Deedy, Mrs. Hallows, Madame Myers, Mrs. Barron, Mrs. Farmer, Mrs. Diplock, the Misses Dugdale, Mrs. Brewster, Mrs. Seranaecke, Mrs. Lyle, Miss Gray, Miss Woolland, and the many others who kindly left goods at the stall, all of which found a ready sale.

A great feature of last week's sale was the beautiful stall stocked by Mrs.

Douglas Hamilton with artistic jewellery, lace and pictures.

The organisers beg members to note that the beautiful laurel decorations will be for sale on Friday at half-price. All those wishing to decorate for Christmas should profit by this offer.

Grateful acknowledgments to: Miss Little, Geoffrey Marshall, Miss J. G. Hawkey, Mrs. Rose Eastman, "A Rad-left Member, the Hon. Mrs. Cochrane, Miss Mildred Hay, Miss Vera Laughon, Birmingham W.S.P.U., Miss E. H. Wilkinson, Miss Sophia Strangways, Miss Helen MacRae, Sydenham W.S.P.U., Clacton W.S.P.U., Miss Smyth Piggott, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Gill, the Misses Ridley, Mrs. St. John Hall, Miss E. Perry, Miss Barrie, Bowes Park W.S.P.U., Letchworth W.S.P.U., Miss Grieve, Miss Bowerman, Mrs. Neal, Miss Noaks, Miss D. Pearce, Miss Dearn, Mrs. Burke (Bangalore), Miss Grace Blyth, Mrs. Laski, Miss LeLacheur, Miss Sheppard, Mr. Littlejohn, Miss Fox, Mrs. Julie Morris, Mrs. Brindley, Mrs. Botcherley, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Evans.

A Country Member's Impressions of the Fair.

When I came to think over my Christmas shopping, I realised that there was only one place at which it could be done. The W.S.P.U. Christmas Fair! So I came up to town and took a taxi to Lincoln's Inn House. I had, of course, read all about the magnificent new premises, but found them even finer than I had anticipated; the entrance-hall in which the Sale is held is truly magnificent. The whole place is fully decorated with evergreens, while at the first glance the prevailing colour on the crowded stalls seems to be purple; these against the background of white walls and pillars immediately suggest that the whole is one beautiful scheme of purple, white and green.

The stalls contain everything, both ornamental and useful, that anyone could wish to buy for Christmas presents—dainty jewellery and enamels, clothes of every kind, cushions and embroideries, sweets, and Christmas fare of every kind.

MRS. DRUMMOND'S CALL TO ACTION.

WORKING WOMEN READY.

MORE HELP WANTED.

What We Are Doing.

Plans are now well in hand for the deputation of working women, who are coming from all parts of the country, to lay their mandate before the Prime Minister and Mr. Lloyd George when Parliament reassembles.

The response from working women of all grades shows, once and for all, how democratic and widespread is the demand for women's enfranchisement. By every post come letters from women full of anxiety to be of the number and requesting to be allowed to join the ranks of the "General."

Where now will be Mr. Lloyd George's cry that the Women's Social and Political Union is but an organisation of propertied and rich women, only demanding votes for ladies? Here is an opportunity for working women to nail that lie to the counter for ever. It depends on them to show this Government the real earnestness that lies behind the demand for the vote, and when the time comes they will not be found wanting.

Every hour that passes brings fresh evidence that working women must have the protection of Parliamentary representation.

The report on the sweated women out-workers of Belfast shows, once more how a voteless section can and will be exploited; and Mrs. Drummond's call to working women to rally round her comes at a timely moment.

No working woman can dare to stand aside when these things are in our midst. Even if she can eke out an existence without great inconvenience, she cannot be guiltless if she does not strike a blow for the sweated and exploited women. The feeling that animates suffragists is that these things cannot be permitted to go on, and that every hour which passes is a danger hour while women are disfranchised.

Campaign in the Country.

Last week we published a list of the organisers who are engaged in the various districts working hard to make this deputation a thoroughly representative one, and the reports from all quarters surpass all expectations.

In Bow and Bromley, where Miss Glibdewell is in command, the women are responding magnificently. As stated last week, a local Union has been formed, and already has a membership of twenty in four days.

Send money to assist in the great scheme of organisation which is on foot at Lincoln's Inn House.

Meetings are being arranged regularly for Monday, Wednesday, and Friday afternoons (except during Christmas week), and members are asked to come forward at once to sell the paper and to canvass for these women's meetings.

From Poplar Miss Hockin sends the good news that the campaign there is well under way. Speakers are booked for most days during January, and both indoor and outdoor meetings have been arranged. The women are most enthusiastic, and the menfolk, too, are responding to the call; for they begin to see that if their social conditions are

ever to be bettered their women must have the political power to move legislators. Canvassers and helpers of all kinds are needed; names should be sent at once.

Miss Jacobs is in charge of North London and the surrounding districts. She reports most enthusiastic meetings and a ready response from the working people, and asks that any of the women's Unions, or any person willing to help, will communicate with her at 18, New-street, Upper Baker-street, N.W. Promises to swell the ranks of the deputation and offers of help are also to hand from the following districts:—Kilburn, Kensal Rise, Harrow-

opportunity is at hand. If those who can help will write to 278, Bow-road, E., saying in what district they will work, the organiser can make use of them.

From the northern towns, too, comes encouraging news. Mrs. Baines is carrying the news from town to town, rousing enthusiasm and interest. She writes:—

"Have good news for you. Many promises of money and names for the deputation from Manchester, Bolton, Huddersfield, and Leeds. I believe we can get thousands of women, as the enthusiasm everywhere is so splendid. Let the public know that I am organising

"THE GENERAL."



Mrs. Drummond, who is organising the great deputation of working women.

road, Marylebone, Islington, Highbury, and Walthamstow.

In Stepney the open-air meetings have been attended by most sympathetic crowds, and members are being made. Thanks to Miss Holiday, Miss Morgan, Miss Holloway, and the Misses Lazar-nick for canvassing and paper selling. More help is wanted, especially for January. Will all who can spare even an hour write to Miss Fischer, 304, Old Ford-road, E.?

Miss Emerson sends a long list of meetings arranged in Bethnal Green, and reports that everywhere enthusiasm prevails, and the crowds are most sympathetic. Helpers are needed here also.

Pimlico and Lambeth is in the able hands of Miss Shadden, and her report shows that in a few days the greatest sympathy has been aroused. Hecklers are plenty, but are soon answered by the understanding members of the crowd, leaving the speakers little to do. Nurse Evans' indefatigable energy is a great help, but more members must come forward to help in the various districts. Here is work for everyone, and none should stand aside when such an

the women in the North, Colne Valley, Rosendale Valley, Huddersfield, Leeds, Bradford, Preston, and Manchester. So far I have been more than successful, and everything points to a very large contingent of working women from the North."

Who Will Subscribe?

In the last issue of THE SUFFRAGETTE, General Drummond called upon the women who cannot go on the deputation themselves to make it possible for others to go. Such a great scheme must be backed by financial help, and we repeat the "General's" call to action again this week. It must be made possible for every woman who wants to join the deputation to be enabled to do so. Let it not be said that those who have always said that Votes for Women is the demand of the W.S.P.U. when the hour came did not rally round the workers. The W.S.P.U. has never called upon its members in vain, and those who know the loyalty that binds them to all women fully realise that the appeal for funds will not be made without getting a response. Deeds, not words, every time. It is up to all members to do what they can.

"A BLAZE OF TRIUMPH."

Canada Enthusiastic.

Miss Wylie, the W.S.P.U. organiser in Canada, writes that she is reserving the report of her tour for the Christmas number of THE SUFFRAGETTE, to which paper she claims she has already obtained a great many Canadian subscribers. She is busy arranging her other meetings in the Far West, for she has reached Winnipeg, and is going on to Maple Creek, in Sask., with the intention of proceeding to Vancouver after Christmas. Her letter is one long recital of meetings held in halls, churches, and institutes, and in all and through all she seems to meet with such impartial listeners, and in the end such good converts, that, as she herself expresses it, "I feel I left Fort William in a blaze of triumph." She writes with appreciation of the Canadian Press, which has all along, from Montreal to the Western Provinces, given her a splendid hearing and almost unlimited space. The editor of THE Ottawa Evening Citizen wrote on October 31:—"The visit of Miss Wylie to Ottawa would afford the citizens an excellent opportunity to judge for themselves concerning the truth of the reports that have been current regarding Miss Wylie and the Suffrage Movement which she represents. The verdict appears to be that the cause of the 'fundamental rights of citizenship, so far as women are concerned and her power to make her wishes politically felt, are not judged to be of vital importance in Canada,' for more and more the question of 'Votes for Women' and votes this session is presenting itself in the form of resolutions passed unanimously in the crowded meetings Miss Wylie addresses." There is every hope that in Canada women will not be expected or required to make their demand kneeling, year after year, for half a century, and at the end hear that the Prime Minister, although willing to take a salary which women help to pay, is determined never to sit in a Parliament elected by women's votes!

As regards "methods," THE EVENING Citizen of Ottawa wisely remarks that "whether or not Miss Wylie stands for militant methods the principle behind the methods is of greater importance. Should she prove a firebrand, as some imagine, that is in itself not valid cause to regret the justice of the demand that lies behind the method of making it." As Miss Wylie is pursuing a path of ever-increasing success, we hope the just contention of our friend in Ottawa has been amply vindicated.

A NEW W.S.P.U. SHOP.

Date of Opening Ceremony.

The Westminster and St. George's Branch of the W.S.P.U. has at last secured an office and shop at 17, Totterdell-street, midway between Caxton Hall and Parliament-square. The Westminster Union hopes to justify its existence by providing a Suffrage centre within sight of the Houses of Parliament. The new shop is in the proud position of being the nearest Woman's Suffrage centre to the House of Commons, and so it should not appeal in vain for support from all women.

To make the shop more useful and more attractive, the committee has decided to cater for afternoon teas from three to 6.30 p.m., Saturdays excepted, so providing a rendezvous and resting-place for all those who may have business at the House of Commons, or who may require refreshment between their efforts to spur on forgetful Members to remember women's existence.

It will be quite simply severe in its arrangements, this new little shop. Its scheme of decoration will be carried out in the colours, with its white walls, green stained chairs and tables and white wood floor.

The great opening ceremony will be at the Afternoon "At Home" given by the committee on January 9 to welcome Mrs. Pankhurst, but the shop will be opened for use on Friday, December 20, at ten a.m. Come and bring your friends to tea on that day.

"The Suffragette."

1d. EVERY FRIDAY.

Place it on order at your Newsagent's.

THE WOMEN TAXPAYERS AGENCY

5 DOORS FROM LINCOLN'S INN HOUSE. THE WOMEN TAXPAYERS AGENCY (MRS. E. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A.)

FOR HEALTH AND SUNSHINE. BEXHILL-ON-SEA. YORK PRIVATE AND RESIDENTIAL HOTEL.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, St. James's, S.W.

The Board of Management have decided, in view of the very deep interest shown in the objects of the Club, to enlarge further 200 Founder Members at £1 1s. subscription, and no entrance fee.

EARLY APPLICATION ADVISABLE. Members are notified that table d'hôte lunch (1s. 6d.) and dinner (2s.) are served daily.

The Club has been formed as a Social Club for MEN AND WOMEN interested in the Suffrage Movement.

CONSTANT LECTURES ARRANGED.

THE LAVENDER LAUNDRY

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The Suffragette.

MINISTERIAL MANOEUVRES.

We announced last week the anti-Suffrage plot of the Government as disclosed by one of their leading supporters. It is to give a sop to the Suffragists by allowing the word "male" to be deleted from the Manhood Suffrage Bill, and then to secure the defeat of all the amendments conferring the vote upon women.

The Government, although they knew themselves to be found out by the W.S.P.U., had hoped that the non-militants might be kept in blissful ignorance of this scheme until after it had been carried into effect.

As Mr. Lloyd George's specious assurance and renewed pretences of friendship may be having some effect upon the unwary, it is profitable to look into the whole facts of the situation.

There are three persons whose movements call for special observation. These are Mr. Lloyd George, Sir Edward Grey, and Mr. Asquith.

Mr. Asquith's part is that of the bigoted and irreconcilable opponent of Votes for Women. At all costs he must show an unbending front, or else Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey will have no longer any excuse for neglecting to carry their Woman Suffrage principles into effect.

Mr. Asquith, then, accepts the role of the villain of the piece! Mr. Lloyd George, the author of this interesting drama, has claimed for himself the part of the hero, and while he plans the defeat of Woman Suffrage he poses by fits and starts as the foremost champion of the cause.

At the present moment Mr. Lloyd George is industriously spreading the rumour that he and Sir Edward Grey have only just discovered that the House of Commons has been privately informed that the passage of Woman Suffrage means the break-up of the Government.

Sir Edward Grey has come forward publicly, as he did twelve months ago, to provide a certificate of good faith for his colleagues. His certificate is utterly worthless, because he is quite as dishonest as they are.

Sir Edward Grey in his latest pronouncement has said that if Woman Suffrage is adopted by the House of Commons, it will be made part of the Government's Franchise measure.

Mr. Lloyd George had, perhaps, a little over-estimated the guilelessness of some of the women with whom he had to deal.

Entered then Sir Edward Grey. His Suffrage record was, truth to tell, not a brilliant one, but he had lately gained some measure of confidence by his activities in connection with

the Conciliation Bill. He stood, at any rate, much higher in the esteem of women than did Mr. Lloyd George. If he had shown some weakness, as by not insisting upon facilities for the Conciliation Bill in the Coronation year he obviously did, he was regarded as being more honest, at any rate, than Mr. Lloyd George.

The announcement of the Manhood Suffrage Bill, and the making of a sham pledge to women, had coincided with the distinct drawing together of Mr. Lloyd George and Sir Edward Grey. They had formerly been not so closely allied, and Mr. Lloyd George had been reputed to be strongly opposed to Sir Edward Grey's foreign policy.

In gross contravention of the Prime Minister's "pledge" and of the assurances of his two colleagues, that the Manhood Suffrage Bill would be freely open to amendment in the interests of women, the word "male" was inserted in the Bill.

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At a great meeting in the Albert Hall on February 15, convened by the Labour Party, the I.L.P. and the Fabian Society, a resolution demanding Adult Suffrage was passed. Now that resolution contained the words: "This meeting . . . assures the Government that no measure of Manhood Suffrage will be acceptable to the organised forces of labour throughout the kingdom."

Several important things were said on this occasion by the speakers. Mr. Henderson, M.P., who moved the resolution, said, "We have had in the past to tackle situations when some of the most prominent members of the Government were opposed to the policy of the Labour Party."

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This pledge, given in a mass meeting of Labour by the chosen leader of the Party, was received with enthusiasm at the meeting, and throughout much of the Labour world, and with respect even by political opponents.

"TRUTH WILL OUT."

The Labour Party and Suffrage.

By GERALD GOULD.

A RECORD OF FACT.

I have often been asked, after speaking on the relation of the Labour Party to the Suffrage Movement, what were the actual and detailed facts on which some of my arguments were based.

Firstly, I want to make several preliminary points clear. I have often been asked, after speaking on the relation of the Labour Party to the Suffrage Movement, what were the actual and detailed facts on which some of my arguments were based.

Secondly, I shall be deliberately and perhaps almost absurdly elementary. I address myself to those who do not profess to be acquainted with the facts, but want to be told them.

Thirdly, I write without hostility. I am by instinct and training an adherent of what the Labour Party is supposed to stand for, and I should be only too glad if I could reconcile it with my conscience to extend that adherence to the Party itself.

Preliminary Reminders.

The very words "Labour Party" are ambiguous. Very often they signify the Labour members in the House of Commons, but they also often signify the great mass of people who belong to the trade unions and the societies affiliated to the Party throughout the country.

The Historical Record.

The Women's Labour League—a body affiliated to the Labour Party—passed unanimously on January 23 of this year, a resolution: "That this Conference . . . calls upon the Labour Party in the House of Commons to oppose any Government Bill for Electoral Reform unless it contains a clause enfranchising women."

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The apparent intentions of the Labour Party were to fight relentlessly for the inclusion of women in the Government Manhood Suffrage Bill. But how was that fight going to be conducted? This question resolved itself into the question of what exactly was meant by Mr. MacDonald's pledge.

The Liberal Situation.

Before discussing that it is well to remember what was the position of the Liberal Party. The Government had promised previously a full and free chance for the Conciliation Bill, and had then destroyed that chance by the announcement of its intention to introduce the Manhood Suffrage Bill.

To understand the various ways in which the pledge was interpreted, one must remember that there is no question of simply voting for one or other of the suffrage amendments. That the Labour Party is probably prepared to do; but that is admittedly useless.

Three interpretations of Mr. MacDonald's pledges were suggested:—One, that it meant nothing at all; in other words, that whatever it could be made to mean verbally, Mr. MacDonald did not in fact mean to act on it.

The second, that it meant effective coercion; in other words, that the Labour Party would say to the Government, "We shall vote against you on every issue, and do our best to turn you out, unless you make Woman Suffrage a Government measure."

Not till October 12 could Mr. MacDonald be induced to explain what he had meant. His explanation followed the lines of the first of the three outlined above.

Constant pressure had been put upon him and his Parliamentary followers by local branches of the I.L.P. to adopt the second and most effective of these three courses; and it was in response to a pressing question from Mr. Matson, an I.L.P. secretary, that he wrote on a postcard on October 12: "My statement at the Albert Hall was specific, and will be acted on."

Let anybody who is interested, and remembers that Mr. Lansbury stood last month at Bow and Bromley for those principles which the Labour Party professes, turn up *The Daily Citizen*, the official organ of the Labour Party, for the dates of that contest in Bow and Bromley, and observe the official attitude of hostility towards a man whose crime it was to want prompt and stronger action than the Party could adopt without embarrassing the Government.

MILITANCY MUST PREVAIL—THE GOVERNMENT FRIGHTENED.

Cabinet Ministers Heckled—False Fire Alarms—More Pillar Boxes Attacked—The Press and Militancy.

A STRENUOUS WEEK.

WAR.

The approach of Christmas does not seem to allay the alarm in the public mind with regard to militancy. A continual stream of reports of damage and delay caused to letters by fire or by tar and other substances placed in the pillar-boxes, appear in newspapers in all parts of the country. Few places seem to have been exempt from this particular form of annoyance—City men, members of fashionable West-End clubs, country and town dwellers alike raise their voices in horror and dismay at a protest which touches their personal convenience, and possibly soils their own fingers. No form of militancy has yet touched home more nearly than has this latest development. It is reported that many business firms, in the face of the reputation of responsibility by the Government officials, are making special arrangements with regard to the posting of letters, having them conveyed in specially constructed bags to central offices, and using messenger boys for important matters.

In Manchester, Birmingham, and other large cities, false calls have been given necessitating the turning out of numerous fire brigades, fire stations so disturbed usually receiving on the following day a postcard bearing the pregnant inscription: "You cannot extinguish us! Votes for Women!" Cabinet Ministers have not lacked reminders of "Votes for Women" during the past week. Mr. Runciman, who at Barry the week before was the subject of so much attention from women detractors of their rights, was severely heckled by men supporters of the Suffrage at the Kingsway Hall on Wednesday, December 11, while at a mass meeting at Bournemouth, the same evening, Lord Crewe had to listen to various protests in the shape of interruptions from Suffragists. In both instances the protesters were speedily ejected—at the Kingsway Hall the usual brutality being displayed by stewards. It is interesting to note that Lord Crewe made the admission that the women "felt they were doing their duty" in reminding him of his obligations as a responsible Minister of the Crown, and a professed believer in Woman Suffrage.

In spite of the wide-spread damage to letter-boxes, and the long continuance of the outrages, it is significant that no charge has yet been brought against any Suffragist in this connection.

Lord Crewe at Bournemouth.

"Doing Their Duty."

Lord Crewe addressed a mass meeting arranged by the Bournemouth Liberal Association at the Westover Skating Rink on Wednesday evening, December 11.

Lord Crewe, who was received with applause, had only spoken a few words when he was interrupted by Suffragists. Remarking that it was an interesting experience for a politician to pay a first visit to such a well-known place, he was promptly brought to business by a woman's voice interjecting the cry of "Votes for Women." Immediately there was an uproar among the audience as the stewards made their way to where the woman was sitting. They speedily ejected her amidst boosing and hissing;

twice by clenched fists. A comparison of the injuries received evinced a desire not only for rejection, but for personal vengeance, and the exact similarity of the nature and position of the injuries pointed to a concerted plan to injure on the part of the stewards.

Another correspondent writes:—"Hymns having been sung and prayer offered, Mr. Runciman rose to deliver his inaugural address, when a middle-aged man immediately put a question. The speaker stood quite still, while cries of 'Throw him out!' were heard from members of the audience. Another gentleman rose at the back of the hall, and cried, 'Answer that question!' Mr. Runciman turned towards him, while the first interrupter was pulled and hustled out by a crowd of men, his arm being badly hurt. Meanwhile, the second interrupter had shouted 'What about votes for women, Mr. Runciman?' before he was dragged off his feet and thrown out, with his clothes badly torn. The other men in different parts of the hall also protested, and were ejected with some violence."

FALSE FIRE ALARMS.

What the Newspapers Say.

The militant Suffragists, apparently dissatisfied with their anti-pillar-box crusade, have inaugurated a new form of outrage. Their latest victims are the fire-fighters of London, Birmingham, and other centres. On December 10, starting from 9.42, the Birmingham Brigade received a series of mysterious false alarms. In response to urgent calls over the telephone, contingents of men with fire-fighting apparatus, proceeded to Victoria-road, Aston, Charlotte-street, Park-road, Aston, Highfield-road, Moseley, and School-road, Moseley.

There were five calls, but no fires. Mr. Tozer could not understand the mystery. It was unusual to receive such a comparatively large number of malicious false alarms in one night.

GIRL-EDGED POSTCARDS.

This morning his suspicions were confirmed by the postman, who delivered a series of girl-edged postcards, addressed to the Fire Station, Old Priory, Birmingham, and bearing the following, hand-printed in purple and green:—

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EXTINGUISH US IF YOU CAN.

These were posted at ten o'clock in Aston, Harborne, Albion-street, and other districts, and were not only delivered, but were type-written in each case, and the messages were undoubtedly penned by the same hand.

The method is effective, but in conveniences no one except the firemen, who, while going to false alarms, may be wanted for serious business elsewhere. That is the serious part of the latest militant tactics, in support of Women's Suffrage.

We understand that most of the Birmingham "calls" came from street-boxes, but in one case, the shrill, excited voice of a woman was heard through the telephone exchange.—*Birmingham Evening Dispatch.*

The following is another account from a leading Manchester paper:—

What is suspected to be a new development in the tactics of militant Suffragists began in London and Manchester on December 10, with the telephoning of false alarms of fire to the fire brigades. So far as Manchester is concerned, two urgent telephone calls, both given in female voices, were received within a period of fifteen minutes at the headquarters in Whitworth-street. The first was received about a quarter-past seven, the call being to the Market-street Picture House, where a performance was in progress.

Fully realising the appalling danger of an outbreak of fire in such circumstances, Chief Officer Baylis, with four strong detachments of the brigade, promptly set out, and proceeded along London-road and Piccadilly into Market-street, followed by hundreds of people. When the brigade stopped in front of the Picture House, the excitement grew, and the widest speculation was rife as to the nature of the outbreak. The firemen immediately sprang to their posts, and proceeded to couple up jets to the street mains, while a number of firemen rushed to the doors of the audi-

torium. At the doors the astonished attendants barred their progress, and the audience were left in ignorance of the intense excitement that concentrated around the place.

Having realised that they were the victims of an exceedingly dangerous kind of hoax, the firemen returned to headquarters, only to be summoned on the telephone again some thirteen minutes later. This time the call was to the premises of Messrs. John Heywood, Limited, Deansgate, and on the name of the informant of the outbreak being requested the name of Jones was given. Suspecting another hoax because of the fact that the alarm was not received on the direct telephone line between Messrs. Heywood's and the fire station, the chief officer rang up Heywood's, only to have his suspicions confirmed. There was no fire, and no occasion for any alarm.

Investigations were at once begun by Mr. Baylis, and though he was unable to definitely trace the first call, he found that the second came from a public call-box at the Central Station. The fact that both calls were given in female voices naturally points suspicion at the militant Suffragists, who, so far in Manchester, have taken no part in the letter-box outrages.

A false alarm of fire—presumably the work of Suffragists—received by the brigade to-day (December 16) from the Wool Exchange.—*Evening News.*

ATTACK ON PILLAR-BOXES.

200 Letters Damaged.

The Suffragettes have at last turned their havoc-working tactics to Leicester. On December 11 it was found that five pillar letter-boxes in different parts of the town had been made the objects of letter-destroying attacks, which appear to have emanated from perverted supporters of the "Votes for Women" movement.

It was at the collections made between seven and eight o'clock that it was found the "dirty work"—a vulgar phrase which fits an equally vulgar deed—had been done. Upon collections being made at pillar-boxes in Eastgates, Hummerstone-road, Rutland-street, Newark-street, and Stonegate, it was only too obvious that a systematic attempt had been made to damage the heavy correspondence which is usually posted at this time of the evening.

As a matter of fact, the five boxes were half-full of letters, and other postal matter, and the outcome of the misguided efforts of fanatical individuals was that nearly two hundred letters were defaced by what appeared to be ordinary ink and a thick odorous fluid resembling Brunswick Black.

The contents of the Eastgates and the Newark-street boxes suffered most. Cardboard tubes containing a dark sticky fluid were enclosed in envelopes, folded in oval form, and pushed into the box. The greasy mess slowly spread on to a number of envelopes, and in several cases the addresses were completely obliterated. This will necessitate the letters being sent to the Deal Letter Office, so that the addresses of the senders can be ascertained.

In the case of three other boxes, bottles containing what appeared to be ordinary writing ink were dropped in, and the contents besmirched the envelopes, but not so much that the addresses could not be deciphered.

Inquiry at the Central Post Office confirmed the fact that the outrages had been committed, but no details were available from that source. The matter was reported to the Postmaster, as well as to the police, but up to late last night the perpetrators had not been traced.—*Leicester Mercury.*

The experience of other towns has suggested to the citizens of Norwich that the fact that Mrs. Fankhurst, the leader of the militant Suffragettes, is to speak in this city to-day will probably be emphasized by some preliminary tinkering with the letter pillar-boxes, and information is at hand that in at least three cases this has already by some person or persons been done. The boxes in question are all in the neighbourhood of St. Stephen's, and in each case bottles, without caps, and containing some black fluid, have been deposited. No great harm has been done, and the fact that in other boxes some sticky substance has been injected, that could

cause only inconvenience, justifies the hope that some practical jokers have been at work, and that the senseless outrage is not attributable to the militant Suffragettes.—*Eastern Evening News.*

Suffragists poured corrosive fluids into three pillar-boxes in the Chiswick High-road on Saturday night, and in two cases letters and postcards were damaged. The fluid which caused the damage had been placed in wax bags, which were enclosed in ordinary envelopes. No arrests have been made.

Similar offences were committed at Lewisham. A quantity of coal-tar was poured into three pillar-boxes. In no case was serious damage done. In the pillar-box at the south entrance to Lewisham-mark a piece of the inner tube of a bicycle was employed to pour the fluid through the aperture. The tube was enclosed in a *Votes for Women* paper.—*Times.*

The growing indignation of the public against the misguided and wantonly foolish tactics of the militant Suffragettes will derive further stimulus from the fact that a disgraceful attack has been made upon a post-office letter-box in Derby. On Tuesday evening, when a postman was making the 6.15 collection of letters from the wall box attached to the sub-post-office at the top of Greenwich, he noticed a wet black substance at the bottom of the box inside. It had the appearance of being a mixture of lamp-black and oil, and it had been contained in an open cartridge-like vessel, from which, after having dropped into the letter-box, it oozed out. About half a dozen letters were rendered indecipherable, and they have been forwarded to the Deal Letter Office, where they will be opened and returned to the senders in the usual way. Several other letters were badly smeared, but the addresses were not entirely obliterated, and they have been duly delivered. The authorities have little doubt that the mischief has been done by a supporter of Mrs. Fankhurst.—*Derby and Chesterfield Reporter.*

Five pillar-box outrages have been committed in various parts of Reading. The boxes were full of letters at the time. Acids and fluids were used, and pieces of paper bearing the words "Votes for Women" were found in the receptacles.—*Morning Post.*

Mr. Masterman at Erith.

Mr. Masterman was the chief speaker at a meeting at Erith on Monday night to discuss the Insurance Act. As usual, the Suffragettes were on the spot to make known their opinion on an Insurance Act about which women were not consulted, and on the behaviour of the Government generally to women. Mr. Masterman, who was heckled throughout his speech, adopted the new attitude towards Suffrage interrupters, and tried to persuade both men and women to be quiet by promising to answer their questions later, but Suffragettes know too much to believe in such promises, and no gentle entreaties on the part of the wily Mr. Masterman could stop the questions. Only five men and women were ejected in all, each one causing a great commotion in the audience, who were most sympathetic, and continually cried, "Be careful!" "Don't hurt the women!" As a speech, Mr. Masterman's effort was not a success, but as Suffrage propaganda it could not have been better.

THE CASE OF MR. FRANKLIN.

A Warrant for His Arrest.

It was inevitable that the blundering policy of the Government, as put into execution by the magisterial tools, of passing upon such offences committed by Suffragettes sentences of a most vindictive nature, would result in a counter-move on the part of those against whom these punishments were levelled. Had there been justice and reason behind legal administration, the law might have been respected; but as hysteria and hate have made themselves chiefs amongst the choices for Suffragists has been either to lose their respect for the law or their respect for themselves. As the Government find themselves unable to attend to nuisances, Suffragists have been forced themselves to become one of the nuisances which demand attention. Accordingly, Mr. Hugh Franklin has set the law at defiance by

failing to answer a summons to appear at Wealdstone Court House on Tuesday morning, on the charge of endangering the safety of passengers on the Great Central Railway. By doing so he has openly defied the law, which the actions of the Government has long rendered despicable.

A witness was called to show that a railway carriage had been set on fire, but beyond the issue of a warrant nothing more could be done. Mr. Victor Duval, hon. organising secretary of the M.P.U., handed a letter to the magistrates, in which Mr. Franklin stated that "as Suffragist rebels we consider that under present circumstances certain definite forms of action must be taken in order that the Government may be forced to give Votes for Women—one of them being to cause the authorities as much trouble as we possibly can."

"It is not, therefore, my intention voluntarily to attend your court, and if the Government still wish the prosecution to persist in this charge against me, then the only means by which they can secure my presence is to issue a warrant for my arrest and to force me to appear."

The warrant was accordingly issued, but Mr. Franklin has not, up to the present, been arrested.

PRESS COMMENTS.

THE SUFFRAGE MEASLES.

In one respect Suffragitis resembles an infectious disease—it breaks out in epidemic form in some new manifestation. The single good service which the shrieking sisterhood renders to the cause of female enfranchisement is that of advertisement; but the numerous disservices far more than outweigh any possible good from that source. The latest prank was perpetrated yesterday, when in the course of an hour and a half the London fire brigades turned out on what proved to be ten false calls. Evidently there is plenty of originality at headquarters, and quite as evidently there is not enough sense to use it in effective channels. A famous person, who in his day tried plaguing the authorities, was Moses, and neither he nor his followers enjoyed the promised land—a condition of success which would ill please some prominent militants who can justly be charged with fighting more for personal kudos than for their sisters' welfare. The cause is good; the leaders are pitiable. It is more than a pity that a greater movement, which was making steady progress among the enlightened public, should have its advancement blocked by the

PILLAR-BOX MILITANCY.



Officials clearing out a Fleet Street pillar-box that was attacked by Militants.

QUESTION IN THE HOUSE.

Postal Facilities.

In the House of Commons on Monday, December 16, Mr. Peto asked the Postmaster-General whether he can make arrangements for firms, companies, and individuals who require to post large numbers of letters at the same time in direct at the Post Office instead of putting them in the ordinary pillar and other letter-boxes, and thus save the time both of the public and the postmen, particularly in view of the risk of damage to correspondence deposited in the pillar-boxes which at present exists?

Mr. Herbert Samuel: Any batch of letters for the post can, under the ordinary regulations, be collected from the sender's premises, if the postage amounts to £10, and if reasonable notice is given beforehand. Generally, special arrangements are made where any considerable quantity of letters is being regularly sent by any one person. In view of the fact that, according to the reports that have at present reached me, not a single letter has been destroyed in the recent malicious attempts upon pillar-boxes, I do not consider that the circumstances require the imposition upon the counter staff of the additional work which would be involved by the adoption of the hon. Member's suggestion.

foolishness of some few of its exponents.—*Evening Gazette.*

While people are more or less gravely discussing the ethics and expediency of militant action, the women are continuing their latest plan of converting dull persons who are not open to intellectual conviction. Of course, it is possible to make out a strong case against there being any possible reasonable connection between women's rights to the franchise and the burning of letters in the post-boxes. It is quite unreasonable, perhaps. But that is rather the Suffragettes' case: since the electors will not listen to reason, then the Suffragettes are driven to action that is quite unreasonable. If a crowd of deaf, dumb, and blind persons place themselves in the high road and block the passage for ordinary citizens, then the only thing to do (since they are not open to conviction by any of the proper methods of addressing such persons), is to lift them out of the road by main force. And that is somewhat the position of the Suffragettes. They have proved their case as a matter of logic; but their road is still blocked by the half-witted, led by Mrs. Humphry Ward, and the ignorantly indifferent, led by the politicians—the ignorant and the ignorant are the usual tools of politicians.—*The Clarion.*

It would be interesting to know to what extent the Suffragist deprecations on letter-boxes are practised. There is good reason to fear that the public are being kept in the dark as to what is actually occurring. Several complaints have reached us recently with reference to letters which have never been de-

livered, and it is not unreasonable to suggest that the cause is connected with the foolish letter-box raid of these misguided women. If this be the case, surely it would be wise for the authorities to issue full precautions, and thus enable those who from their letters receive no replies to duplicate them without delay. Under present circumstances those who have important business communications to send through the post will be well advised to post them inside the General Post Office, and leave the wall and pillar-boxes severely alone.—*Midland Evening News.*

GUARDING MINISTERS FROM SUFFRAGISTS.

A question was asked in the House recently in regard to the cost to the nation of the additional police protection which it has been found necessary to accord to members of the Cabinet in consequence of Suffragists' activities.

In most people are aware, the leading members of the Government, each have their accredited plain-clothes officers to follow them about and look after their safety. A whole line of these detectives may sometimes be noticed lingering beneath the cloisters at St. Stephen's, waiting to follow any Minister who may leave the House in order to visit his Department in Whitehall. Nor is this protection withdrawn when Ministers leave London, and the detectives sometimes have to undertake long journeys if their charge joins a country house party for the week-end, or rushes off to Rye or Sandwich for a couple of days' golf. It appears that one Minister, Sir Edward Grey, has recently requested that Scotland Yard should relax its precautions so far as his own person is concerned. So well and unobtrusively do the detectives do their work that for a long time the Foreign Secretary did not know that he was being "shadowed," and it was on his discovering it a short time ago that he asked that the protection should be withdrawn. Mr. Balfour expressed a similar desire during the stormy days when, as Chief Secretary, police protection was afforded to him, and it was only with very great difficulty that he was prevailed upon to accept what was at that time a very necessary precaution.—*The Nottingham Guardian.*

Viragoes of the Pillar Box.

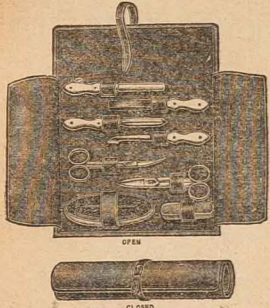
Fleet-street was in a ferment this evening just before the clearance for some of the most important provincial mails over another series of pillar-box outrages. Earlier in the week it was Down-street—the very heart of "clubland"—as regards the Piccadilly part of that exclusive area—which was the scene of a similar exploit. Yesterday the cloistered decorum of the Temple had a bad shake up when the destructive treacherly fluid was found mingling with those precious legal documents that go out every afternoon between learned counsel in London and their professional brethren in the country.

To-day, as I have said, it was journalism that had its turn. Whether the ill-directed enterprise of the pillar-box raiders was really worth while is neither here nor there. What catches my eye and suggests a comment is the wearisome formula, "no arrests were made." Of course. Ever since the beginning of this pillar-box business the satellites of Scotland Yard in the West and Old Jewry in the East have been industriously engaged in asking people to believe—and this in all seriousness—that the wholesale dislocation of England's postal system is such an easy job that detection of its offenders is "impossible." An avowal like this is abject self-confession that the detective police of London are the clumsiest amateurs going in aught that concerns their proper business.—*Manchester Courier.*

John Pound & Co

The House for Christmas Gifts.

NOVELTIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.



MANICURE ROLL, made of soft brown colour, real VELVET CALF, with IVORY fittings ... 17/6

WORK ROLL to match, fitted with reels of cotton, needles, &c. ... 15/6

Write for PRESENTS List.

268-270, OXFORD ST., W. 211, REGENT ST., W. 67, PICCADILLY, W. 243, BROMPTON RD., S.W. 177-178, TOTTENHAM COURT RD., W. 81-84, LEADENHALL ST., E.C.

HARRIES

OF WESTBOURNE GROVE, W.

AT THE ELEVENTH HOUR

—or at the last minute, possibly —you may want to buy some inexpensive trifle with which to express your regard and good wishes for some friend.

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TWO HEROINES OF FICTION.

Of many heroines I have met in recently-published novels two have seemed to me to be of special interest. In "The Swimmer" Miss Louise Gerrard gives us a portrait of the modern girl who, thrown on her own resources, will not allow herself to drift with the tide, but bravely swims against the stream of adversity. Eventually she wins through, and her adventures and experiences not only make interesting reading in themselves, but also serve to emphasize the hideous perils which our present economic and political conditions place in the path of every good-looking girl who is called upon to earn her own living.

A very different character is presented to us by Miss E. Gallienne Robin in "Christine: A Guernsey Girl," and future generations may wonder that the situations contained in it could ever have appeared credible to twentieth-century readers. Here briefly is the story. Christine, while still a schoolgirl, is originally assaulted by a man who does not scruple to use drugs to achieve his purpose. In consequence she becomes a mother, and though the child dies and her family keep the matter secret, the story leaks out and becomes material for persistent blackmailing years later when she has married a young farmer. Now it is all very well to blame Christine and her mother for not revealing the past to this man before the marriage, yet the fact remains—as the husband afterwards admits—that had he been told in time the marriage would probably never have taken place. The book, quite unconsciously, no doubt, is a powerful and eloquent plea for Woman Suffrage, since the recognition of the full civic rights of women must necessarily be the first step towards establishing that equal standard of morality for both sexes, which to-day is non-existent, whether in life or literature.

FRANK RUTTER.

"The Swimmer." By Louise Gerrard. Mills and Boon. 6s. "Christine: a Guernsey Girl." By E. Gallienne Robin. Hurst and Blackett. 6s.

A PROVIDENCE.

(Dedicated with heartfelt gratitude to the letter-destroying squadron of the militant Suffragettes.)

If I am still received by Mrs. Gibbs, If young Miss Gibbs salutes me with a bow, If the old man himself still prods my ribs Sometimes and says, "How now?"

Ye are the thanks, ye Amazonian crew, Who saved my honour in a desperate case. Men there may be that have a down on you, I harp your acts of grace.

Still in my desk it lies, the little sheet Woven of azure wool, with "just a line," Written by Mrs. Gibbs, of Grafton Street, Requesting me to dine.

Was it from rank discourtesy alone That hour by hour I failed to seize the pen, Till the last wing-foot messenger had flown, Till SAMUEL in his den

Breathed the irrevocable words, "No more?" Scarcely, I think; I may be pretty rude, But banquet invitations seldom bore; Food, after all, is food.

No, but o'er Memory still urging "Write," Procrastination laid her flowery spell, Till Morphew merged my brains in happier night, You take me! Very well.

Briefly, I put it off till at the end The slow dawn creeping through the orient chink Found me inquiring of my tooth-brush, "Friend, What will the old girl think?"

Then came my breakfast and my morning rag: "The Suffragettes have made a further swoop On London pillar-boxes." Did I lag? With one wild joyous whoop

I sat me down and wrote to young Miss G., "The Golliwogs are at their ancient tricks. I hope they spared that letter sent by me Last night at half-past six,

Telling your mother with my deep regrets I could not dine to-day." Ah happy stroke! (Especially that term for Suffragettes; Children do like a joke.)

What was the end? I called on Mrs. Gibbs; Her husband said, "These women should be shot."

I said, "I think so too," and rubbed my ribs. But did I? I did not. EVOE.

With acknowledgments to "Punch."

Programme of the Week.

Table with columns for Day, Location, and Time. Includes entries for Friday, December 20th, Saturday, December 21st, and Sunday, December 22nd, listing various events and speakers.

Table with columns for Day, Location, and Time. Includes entries for Friday, December 20th, Saturday, December 21st, Sunday, December 22nd, Monday, December 23rd, Tuesday, December 24th, Wednesday, December 25th, and Thursday, December 26th, listing various events and speakers.

THE WOMEN'S SOCIAL & POLITICAL UNION.

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WEEKLY PAPER - THE SUFFRAGETTE

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What more Welcome Present can you send your friend than a case of Tea, or (most welcome of all at this season of the year) a package of Chocolates? THE WOMEN'S SUPPLY ASSOCIATION, LINCOLN'S INN HOUSE, KINGSWAY, LONDON, W.C. are prepared to send, post free to any part of the U.K. on receipt of the amount stated, a packet containing:

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"Suffragette" Chocolates. Welcome Chocolates (No. 1) in 1-lb. boxes, 1/4 1-lb. boxes, 2/6 (No. 2) " 1/8 " 3/- (No. 3) " 2/- " 3/9 Chocolate Almonds 1/9 " 3/3 Chocolate Bon-Bons 1/6 " 3/- You can with confidence recommend our Cigarettes to your gentlemen friends. They are trade-marked "Votes for Women," but chosen for male smokers. Virginian (25's) post free, 1/2 Egyptian (25's) " 1/7 Turkish (25's) " 1/7 All branches of the W.S.P.U. stock our Tea, Chocolates and Cigarettes. PRICE 1d. OF ALL NEWSAGENTS.

AT THE SAVOY THEATRE.

"TWELFTH NIGHT."

A Joyous Performance.

It is not easy to convey an adequate impression of the pure delight experienced in beholding for the first time a representation of Twelfth Night, Shakespeare's sweetest and most joyous of comedies, given as Shakespeare wrote it—without omissions, or alterations, or interpolations. We may take it, I think, that the production at the Savoy Theatre approaches nearer to the original than any other given since Elizabethan days. Thus comparison with any witnessed performance becomes impossible, for Twelfth Night at the Savoy is unique.

Like all other work that stands thus alone, no description can give a right conception of it. It must be seen to be appreciated. We confess to having passed an enchanted evening, in which we found everything perfect, from the bugle-call that summons attention to the opening lines of the play (for an orchestra discoursing modern and inappropriate music is happily dispensed with) to the last note of the clown's song as he vanishes behind the curtain.

"Curtains Like Showers."

The studied simplicity of the scenes strikes the right note from the very first. The single set piece represents a terrace in Olivia's garden—dazzling white steps and gilding, telling us of southern sunshine, and transporting us immediately into a dream climate that knows not fog or undue moisture. To indicate the various changes of locality the gay terrace is blotted out at intervals by silken curtains, falling like summer showers, the designs on each showing in naive but unmistakable fashion that we are in street or orchard as the case may be. And this is all that is needed by way of a dish to serve up such a feast as William Shakespeare can set before us.

Shakespearian Acting.

For the acting as for the setting we can go no further than to say that it was worthy of the whole production. The objectionable plan of hacking pieces off some of the parts, in order to give undue prominence to others, having been abandoned, the characters are seen in their right proportions, and consequently gain in value. The women stand in notable prominence, as taking the initiative throughout (a characteristic feature of all Shakespeare's plays, as Ruskin has noted); and in Miss Evelyn Millard's person "Olivia," dispensed with the touch of wantonness so often disagreeably met with in impersonations of that character, becomes a great lady, who bestows her hand in her graciousness on the most worthy. Miss Lillah McCarthy's "Viola" was frankly adorable. Never does she show herself the mere lovesick damsel that other interpreters we have seen would fain have her be. Her service with the Duke was undertaken and carried through in the spirit of high adventure, and she never loses her sense of humour or her true native dignity.

A Dignified Malvolio.

Her appearance in her boy's dress furnished ample excuse for the Countess's mistake. Malvolio, so often made a buffoon of impossible appearance and behaviour, was admirably played by that brilliant actor, Henry Ainley, who represented him as a dignified seneschal with no more than a conceivable share of vanity and credulousness. Mr. Hayden Coffin justified every whit Sir Andrew's comment on his singing, and Sebastian (a part practically omitted in other productions) became a living and a very charming reality in the hands of Mr. Neilson Terry.

All, in short, was delightful, even the pink summer-house (surely the "cubiculo" where Sir Toby made a rendezvous with his comrade) which has been the subject of so much detraction from critics. Just such a summer-house would a child architect have builded for a favourite princess of fairy tale. Its presence at the Savoy served to remind us throughout of a younger world than ours, a world where fairy tale and history are indistinguishable, a world we may now and again re-enter, if we are worthy, blessing as we pass through its gateway those happy wise ones who have here lent us the key. W. M.

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THE "HATCHET" CHARGE.

Mrs. Leigh's Splendid Defence.

JURY DISAGREE ON ALL COUNTS.

We are to-day able to furnish our readers with an abbreviated account of Mrs. Leigh's trial on the "hatchet charge," to which reference was made in our last week's issue. It took place on Wednesday, December 11, at the City Commission, Dublin, before Mr. Justice Gibson.

The actual indictment included three charges—first, that Mary Leigh, on July 18, 1912, unlawfully and maliciously wound one John Redmond; on the second count, with occasioning him actual bodily harm; and on a third count, with common assault.

The court was crowded by reason of the great interest taken in the case, a large number of women (friends of the prisoner) being present.

Mr. Seymour Bushe, K.C., Mr. Dudley White, K.C., and Mr. Gerald Moran (instructed by Sir Malachi Kelly, Chief Crown Solicitor) appeared to prosecute. Mrs. Leigh was not represented by counsel, but conducted her own defence. She arrived in court quietly and almost unnoticed, and was observed to hold a conversation with Mr. Gerald Byrne, her solicitor.

Not Guilty.

When asked to plead, the prisoner's answer was "Not guilty." Mr. Byrne appeared at this stage of the proceedings on behalf of the prisoner, who, he said, was not ready for her trial, on a couple of grounds. She had not means at her disposal to have a witness, who was not examined in the police-court, present.

Mr. Justice Gibson: "What is the witness's name?" Mr. Byrne: "Mr. John Redmond, the person who, it was stated in the indictment, was unlawfully wounded, and she makes this application, as she considers that the person who is alleged to have been unlawfully wounded by her would be the proper and the best evidence to be given and heard in the case. She was unable to obtain his evidence on account of want of means, and on two occasions—once before the last trial when the indictment was found, and the other about a fortnight before the present trial, she received letters from the Crown Solicitor to the effect that the Crown would not insist on getting this evidence."

He did not wish it to be taken that he was making the application for the purpose of annoying Mr. Redmond or any other person, but Mr. Redmond would be able to give the evidence the prisoner sought. She was never furnished with any evidence of the injury until shortly before the trial in August, when she got the evidence of Dr. M'Arde, who simply made a statement as to the nature of the wound.

Mr. Bushe said the prisoner had already made similar applications, and they were obviously made with the object of embarrassing the Crown. The Crown was not satisfied she had not got means enough. She was a representative of a very large organisation.

Judge's Courtesy.

Mr. Justice Gibson refused to grant her application, and remarking that the prisoner did not look strong, gave her permission to sit during the progress of the trial.

Mrs. Leigh asked for permission to leave the dock while conducting her defence, the space being cramped, and Mr. Justice Gibson having no objection, she was transferred to the body of the court.

Mr. Bushe outlined the facts of the case to the jury. On July 18 last Mr. Asquith arrived in Dublin, and was escorted by a torchlight procession to his hotel. There were sixteen or seventeen carriages in the procession, in one of which Mr. and Mrs. Asquith, Mr. Redmond, and the Lord Mayor were seated. As the procession got abreast of the Post Office the prisoner was seen to sling a missile at Mr. Asquith's carriage.

The Marshal of the procession, Mr. John O'Brien, who witnessed her action, caught hold of her, and handed her over to two men, from whose hands she escaped, and went home to her lodgings. On the seat of the carriage, beside Mr. Redmond, was found the implement thrown, and Mr. Redmond had received a wound on the side of his head.

Evidence was then given by Mrs. Leigh's landlady, who swore to her re-

turn home at 10.25 without hat or coat, and with a black eye, and that she stated she had been hurt for holding up Mr. Asquith's carriage.

Mr. John O'Brien said he was the Chief Marshal at Mr. Asquith's reception, and that he saw the accused throw an article into the carriage. He seized her, and after a struggle brought her out of the crowd.

Cross-examined by the accused, he admitted to having "caused some of the marks on her," but this was in self-defence.

A constable said he saw the hatchet fit four or five feet over the heads of the people.

Not Caused by Hat-pin.

Surgeon M'Arde deposed to having treated Mr. Redmond that evening for a small incised wound over the right ear. It was not caused by a hat-pin.

The Lord Mayor stated that he saw the hatchet in the carriage, and that Mr. Redmond told him it had been thrown.

Evidence has been given of Mrs. Leigh's arrest, the case for the Crown was closed.

Prisoner said she had no witnesses to assist her.

Mr. Justice Gibson told her that she could address the jury, or leave the matter as it stood.

Prisoner addressed the jury, and said she had been denied the advantage of the evidence of material witnesses, whose evidence would decidedly have shown that anything else that might have happened on the night of the occurrence could not have been done by her.

The evidence given against her was contradictory. Not from the beginning, or at any time, had she denied that she was there that night. Rather she admitted that she was the woman who "put" the implement into the carriage. She did not throw it. She simply "put" it into the carriage. Therefore it was impossible that Mr. Redmond's injuries were received by her hand; it was caused by the crush as he was going from the carriage to the hotel door. The hatchet was used in a symbolic manner to convey to the hon. gentlemen in the carriage that if they used their intellects and their minds, they would respect the rights of even the poorest when they wanted to assert their rights, such things as hatchets were used. It was used, she continued, as a symbol to show that people, if they became despotic, and stepped themselves in certain procedure, can be likened to an absolute oligarchy such as that under which people were governed at the present day. It was her intention in placing the instrument before the eyes of the people in the carriage to show those people the significance of her action and make it engage their consideration. If she had had any intention of doing an injury she should have made no mistake in the matter, but "having put my petition before their eyes," she continued, "I thought that would be sufficient." She pointed out her reasons for having rebelled against the prison system, and went on to say that they, women, had civic consciences as much as the Lord Mayor, and desired, as much, to serve their country. "I am not sorry," she continued, "I have no regrets to offer for having put forth my petition in that manner." Yet it was news to her to hear that Mr. Redmond was injured by her action. She proceeded to quote utterances of Mr. Asquith, Sir Rufus Isaacs and "John Morley."

Mr. Justice Gibson: "We cannot go into matters alleged to have been said by eminent statesmen or others."

Prisoner said she would only say one thing more.

Mr. Justice Gibson: The case would have a much more favourable aspect for you if you had not said anything. The only question the jury and I have to try is whether or not you inflicted malicious and substantial injury upon Mr. Redmond on that occasion.

Prisoner: If my action caused any injury to Mr. Redmond, it is his own fault. If he will choose such company as Mr. Asquith, he does so with full recognition of what he may have to meet. Referring to the fact that her right to come over to Ireland had been questioned, she alluded to the Manchester Martyrs, who, she said, went over to England to pursue their work, and she paid them a compliment in coming over

to Ireland. She was proceeding to refer to Mr. William Redmond when Mr. Justice Gibson said: "We cannot refer to anything of that kind."

Prisoner: It is better to keep their memory green.

These observations caused considerable laughter.

Sentencing Her to Death.

Prisoner in conclusion said that when women received recognition of their rights they would be as agreeable as the Irish people to call for cheers for Mr. Asquith, and "even ask God to give him a long life." "If I wanted," she added, "to bring about the political execution of Mr. Asquith I could have done so, and would not be doing anything illegal." Passionately addressing the jury she said if they found her guilty they would be sentencing her to death.

Mr. Justice Gibson, charging the jury, said the case was a strange one, and one of considerable gravity. He regretted that in the interests of the prisoner she had not been defended by counsel, and had not said anything herself, it might well be, on the strange contradictions of the Crown evidence, that the jury would have found it their duty to acquit her. She said that she was sentenced to five years' penal servitude for another offence in August last, and Mr. Justice Gibson, in sentencing her, meant that sentence to cover the present case. She said that she had a grievance because Mr. Redmond or Mr. Asquith had not been examined. If he (the judge) thought that either Mr. Asquith or Mr. Redmond were necessary, no matter what the inconvenience to them would have been, he should have adjourned this trial to entice their attendance.

The prisoner had referred to the Cause which was dear to her heart, and which she said was the cause of this occurrence. The prisoner was earnestly, passionately interested in this cause, but with human motives a Court of law and a judge had no concern until the time of punishment arrived. What the jury had to consider was the intention of the prisoner. It was no doubt a very terrible proposition, that any political cause in this country was to be advanced by force. The question for their consideration was whether or not Mary Leigh—that intelligent woman who had just spoken with such feeling and passion to them—was guilty of the offence of which she was charged. Even if the hatchet was thrown, not for the purpose of hitting Mr. Redmond or any particular person, but in a reckless spirit, and any person was injured, that would be a malicious act in the eye of the law. If she flung the hatchet recklessly, and it hit Mr. Redmond, the prisoner ought to be convicted. It was impossible to have heard her statement without pity. She was a clever, earnest and a good woman in her own way, attractive, and a good speaker, and no jury could avoid being impressed with the way she addressed them. They must not, however, let their predispositions interfere with the course of justice.

Mr. Justice Gibson: Is there any use in carrying the case any further?

Mr. Bushe said he would consider the question with the authorities.

Mr. Justice Gibson: If the case is ever to be tried again, I think the judge who tries it should have a copy of my notes to show the contentions of the witnesses, which were very material.

The accused was allowed to stand out on her own recognisances of £50, to come up at the next City Commission on receiving ten days' notice.

She appealed to the judge to make an order that she might be saved from the interference of the police if she desired to go to see her friends in England.

Mr. Justice Gibson said he had no control over the terms of her ticket of "Pilgrim Passages," and wondered if she would ever be possible for writers—men and women—of history books to give some credit to the work of women?—

Announcements.

The Christmas Holidays.

Every member of the W.S.P.U. who is going to Switzerland or elsewhere for their Christmas holidays is urged to take with her cards for the weekly At Home at the London Pavilion, and order forms for THE SUFFRAGETTE, and to have extra copies of THE SUFFRAGETTE sent, each week to the holiday address. Order forms and At Home cards can be had on application to the honorary secretary, W.S.P.U., Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway, and instructions with regard to extra copies of the paper should be addressed to the Publisher at the same address.

The Peace Conference.

The delegates to this conference must be reminded that there will be no peace for Cabinet Ministers and the Government so long as the women of Great Britain are denied the rights of citizenship. To this end a protest will be forwarded every day for as long as the conference is sitting. If this is to be kept going, many more members must be forward and add their names to the list of paraders. Will volunteers please communicate with Miss Rogers?

Will You Sell Papers?

The great need of the moment is paper-sellers on all the London pitches. Especially the public need to understand militancy, it is essential that the pitches should never be without a seller. To make this practicable every member of the Union must ask herself: "What time can I give to this work?" When you have decided, kindly communicate with Miss Rogers, Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway.

London Meetings.

The usual weekly meetings, which have been discontinued for the Christmas holiday, will recommence at the London Pavilion, Monday, January 6, at 3.15 p.m., and on Thursday, January 9, at eight p.m.

The Christmas Sale.

The Christmas Sale at Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway, W.C., is open daily from eleven a.m. to eight p.m.

Holiday Notice.

The W.S.P.U. offices, Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway, W.C., will be closed from Monday, December 23, to Monday, December 30.

"The Suffragette."

Owing to the holidays, the Christmas number of THE SUFFRAGETTE will go to press on Friday, December 20, and will be on sale on Monday, December 23.

Speakers' Class.

The Speakers' Classes have closed for the Christmas holidays, and will be resumed on Friday, January 10, at 7.45 p.m.

WHO PLAYS AT RICHMOND?

The following is taken from The Richmond and Twickenham Times: "We really shall have to petition the Government to give up playing golf at Richmond. It is bad enough for one member thereof to do so. That sets the Suffragettes at work on the local pillar-boxes. But when it comes to four members—the Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer amongst them, and that then it is hardly to be wondered at that the militant ones should start on the Chief Post Office itself."

Mrs. Zangwill's Speech.

To the Editor of THE SUFFRAGETTE. DEAR EDITOR,—May I thank Mrs. Israel Zangwill, through you, most sincerely for her most interesting speech at the London Pavilion on November 25, and for her criticism of our knowledge of history. As a teacher of history I have always felt that history books are pitifully one-sided, and the phrase "Pilgrim Fathers" has always made me specially rabid; so much so, in fact, that I have never taught it at all, but always insist upon my girls speaking of "Pilgrim Passages." I wonder if it would ever be possible for writers—men and women—of history books to give some credit to the work of women?—

LEGAL DEFENCE FUND.

Owing to a clerical error, Mrs. Cynthia Stockley's contribution of £1 was incorrectly entered last week. Total, £221 10s. 8d. Hon. Treasurer, Miss Goodlife, 62, High-street, Hampstead, N.W.

THE "TRUE" STORY.

Mrs. Pankhurst at Norwich.

In view of the reports which have appeared in the Press with regard to Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting in Norwich, the following account from one who was present will be of interest to our readers: St. Andrew's Hall was packed on Wednesday last long before the time announced for the meeting to begin, and outside were left thousands who had been unable to obtain admission. The meeting was entirely a ticket one, and every seat in the hall was paid for—the cheapest admission price at the people being sixpence. About 1,600 people were present, and among them were two sections of young men, led by one or two older men, determined, if possible, to prevent Mrs. Pankhurst from speaking. For a short time she succeeded in making herself heard by the people in the front of the hall; but as time went on, the noise of the interrupters became so great that she finally turned her back upon the main body of the audience, and addressed some 300 working women who had been seated behind her in the west gallery. To the regret that they had not been more courageous.

Forcible Feeding.

At Nürnberg and Würzburg especially successful meetings were held, and in Liegnitz the energy of Herr Leo Grossmann brought about a meeting quite independently of the local Suffrage Society. At the close of the meeting the local secretary expressed her great regret that they had not been more courageous. People listened at all the meetings with the greatest attention and sympathy as Miss Tyson told them graphically and eloquently the truth about the Suffragettes and their methods. Now, when the public need to understand militancy, it is essential that the pitches should never be without a seller. To make this practicable every member of the Union must ask herself: "What time can I give to this work?" When you have decided, kindly communicate with Miss Rogers, Lincoln's Inn House, Kingsway.

Hostility Helps the Cause.

Mrs. Pankhurst has received the following letter: DEAR MRS. PANKHURST,—As one who was present at St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich, last evening, I beg that you will accept the enclosed cheque (£5) for your work in token of my admiration for your splendid courage and determination, and also in token of my deep disgust at the cowardly, vulgar, and un-British behaviour of a certain section of the men of Norwich. If it is an honour not to belong to that city and that I am working in it is a humiliation.

Drawing Room Meetings.

Baroness von Finck, second President of the Prussian Union for Votes for Women, writes:—"Miss Tyson has just left my house, and her meetings were closed by people crowding round the platform to assure her that she had set the entire question into a new light. Especially women in Norwich sympathetic and hopeful of the speedy attainment of Votes for Women."

Hammersmith.

Many thanks to Miss Weir, Miss Lees, Mrs. Rowe, and Miss Eaton for gifts for Christmas Fair at Lincoln's Inn House, and to Miss Bushell for arranging drawing-room meeting, at which Mrs. Smithwick spoke. Miss Anderson, paper secretary, will be glad to receive names of those who can join the poster parades to advertise THE SUFFRAGETTE. (Hon. Sec., Miss Carson. Office, 508, King's-road.)

Hampstead.

Last Wednesday Press cart drove through principal streets of Hampstead, and 700 free copies of THE SUFFRAGETTE distributed. Members who were unable to help are asked to undertake their own roads. Papers can be procured from shop, Mrs. Harben has promised to speak with Mrs. Pankhurst at Hampstead Town Hall on Feb. 15. By the energy of Mrs. Sudd Brown and the Misses Gilbert £20 was realised at refreshment stall at Lincoln's Inn House Fair for the first week only. Members reminded of the Christmas-tree at shop from Monday, Dec. 16, to Saturday, Dec. 21. The shop will be closed for Christmas holidays on one week, resuming Tuesday, Dec. 21. (Hon. Org. Sec., Miss D. D. Solomon; Sec., Miss G. Batson. Office, 178, Finchley-road. Tel. 4900 Hampstead.)

Ilford.

Miss Thompson's address at Broadway Chambers, much appreciated. Subscribers' share of band in procession to Victoria Park will be welcome. Mrs. Crouch, 132, Wellesley-road, will be glad of monthly subscriptions. (Hon. Sec., Miss Ethel C. Haslam, 68, Cranbrook-road.)

Kensington.

Shop closed Saturday, Dec. 21, 1 p.m., and reopens Wednesday, Jan. 1, 10 a.m. Will canvassers please come to shop Thursday, Jan. 2, 2.25 to meet Miss Wylie, who is organising North Kensington campaign? See merely to scratch on the surface."

HOSPITALS SUFFER.

A correspondent sends us a copy of the following letter which she has sent in reply to an appeal for funds for St. Bartholomew's Hospital:—"In reply to yours of yesterday's date, I beg to say that no one appreciates more than myself the needs of the suffering poor."

LEGAL DEFENCE FUND.

"It is playing with their need which can be permanent: the fight of women to participate in choosing the Government of the country." "So far from increasing my commitments, I am compelled to reduce them, in order to attack the cause, and not merely to scratch on the surface."

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"It is playing with their need which can be permanent: the fight of women to participate in choosing the Government of the country." "So far from increasing my commitments, I am compelled to reduce them, in order to attack the cause, and not merely to scratch on the surface."

GERMAN SUFFRAGETTES.

Miss Tyson's Tour.

The speaking tour through Germany and Bavaria undertaken by Miss Leonora Tyson at the invitation of the German and Bavarian Women's Suffrage Societies has been an unqualified success. Miss Tyson has addressed meetings in Berlin, Leipzig, Magdebourg, Hanover, Breslau, Elberfeld, Bonn, Mainz, Darmstadt, Frankfurt-on-Main, Würzburg, Nürnberg, Munich, and other places.

Bowes Park and District.

Members are asked to make Mrs. Pankhurst's visit to Palmers Green widely known. Many thanks to members who helped in distributing papers with the cart on Saturday. Will any members volunteer to canvass the ground thus opened up? Please communicate with Miss Havers, 7, Salford-road. (Hon. Sec., Mrs. Cockledge, 12, Foxbourne-road.)

Camberwell and Dulwich.

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Shop will be closed on Christmas Eve, to open Dec. 31. Tickets, price 6s, for debate on militancy at Thornton Heath Baths, Jan. 3, should be secured before holidays. Christmas sale and book-room, Mrs. E. Smith, 21, Miss Hughesdon, 15s. Towards poster fund. Mrs. Davies, 1s.; Mrs. Barnes, 1s.; Mrs. Farley-Smith, 1s.; Mrs. Tanner, 1s. Also invited towards Christmas social fund: Mrs. Bentley McLeod, 5s.; Miss Green, 1s.; Miss English, 1s. Shipping Minister, 1s. 6d. (Hon. Sec., Mrs. Taylor. Shop, 5, Shrubbery-road.)

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Wimbledon. Dr. Letitia Fairfield's address at Lecture Hall made deep impression and promises to result in new members...

Wimbledon Park and South Wimbledon. Mrs. Duval had magnificent meeting on Saturday night. The ends winter series of open-air meetings...

Home Counties. Bexhill-on-Sea. Shop will open as usual during holidays, except for Christmas Day and Bank Holiday...

Bournemouth. Successful protest made by five W.S.P.U. members at Liberal mass meeting held at Westover skating rink on Wednesday evening...

Brighton and Hove. Two successful meetings held at Brighton Monday, Miss Abadam spoke at both, and had a full and representative room at women's meeting in afternoon...

Canterbury. By kind hospitality of Mrs. Wells, a members' meeting was held at her house on Dec. 11, at which plans for January campaign were proposed and discussed...

Eastbourne. Will all members call at shop for bills to distribute for working women's meeting on January 2. The organiser hopes that every member will help to make this a great success...

Hastings. Weekly meetings will be discontinued during holiday. Next, Jan. 6, when it is hoped there will be large attendance. Shop open as usual except for Christmas Day and Bank Holiday...

Hitchin. Brisk meetings in Market-place on Saturday, Dec. 14; a good deal of speaking in pillar-boxes, but on the whole interesting crowd. Many thanks to Mrs. Elsworth, St. Albans, for giving 'At Home' on Tuesday, Dec. 18, to Miss Mace Hatley for 'jumble' sale, and to those who have contributed to Mrs. Drummond's Deputation Fund...

Portsmouth and Southampton. Very many thanks to Miss Wallis for contribution to 2d. Bd., and Mr. Gordon Sloan, 14. A splendid show was made at Anti meeting on Dec. 12, which was practically turned into a Suffrage one...

Tunbridge Wells. Office closed for holidays from Dec. 21 to 31. Paper-sellers wanted during holidays. Many thanks to two members who have recently come forward to help Hon. Sec. in this work...

Wallington. A drawing-room meeting was held at Mrs. Dawe's, 51, Montagu-gardens, on Dec. 12, when Dr. Moritz Weston gave a very able address on the 'White Slave Traffic'...

Worthing. The local union has sent up goods to value of £3 to sale at headquarters. Many thanks to Mrs. Parrish, Miss Murray, Miss Oliver, Miss Chapman, Miss McFarlane, Miss Douglas, Miss Home, and Miss N. Boulton for their gifts...

The Midlands. Birmingham. Office will close from 8 p.m., Friday, Dec. 20, until Monday, Dec. 30, 10 a.m. Any members who wish to obtain copies of The Suffragette during this week either for cash or on sale or return should apply to Caretaker, No. 27, Block III, John Bright-street, opposite office...

Northamptonshire. Office will be closed from Dec. 20, reopening on Dec. 30. Paper-sellers needed as usual. Members reminded that Miss Nancy Lightman is speaking in Northampton Saturday, Jan. 18. Teachers especially asked to attend afternoon meeting at Whyte Melville Hall, 5 p.m. (Org., Miss Miller. Office, 18, Abington-street.)

Nottingham. Thanks to Miss Haly for speaking at short notice in unavoidable absence of Lady L. Marquess. Members asked to get permits for General Drummond's deputation. Office open until Christmas Eve. The organiser will be away from Dec. 20 to Dec. 26. Sale in office on Friday and Saturday realised over £20. Congratulations to all who helped and thanks to those friends who sent contributions. Funds needed for campaign in spite of sale! (Org., Miss C. Marsh. Office, 30, Bridlemeth-gate.)

West of England. Bath. Miss Pridden addressed meeting on Thursday, and fund was started for working women's deputation scheme. Gratefully received: Gifts for shop, Miss Searle and Miss Price; Lansbury Election Fund, Mrs. Senior, 5s.; towards duplicate for shop, Mrs. Senior, 2s. (Hon. Org. Miss Mansel. Shop, 12, Walcot-street.)

Bristol. The sale of work was great success. Members welcomed back Miss Annie Kenney, who paid flying visit for occasion. Thanks due to all who helped so generously, to Mrs. Trafford, who organised working parties, Miss Montgomery for her beautiful cakes and sweets, and to Mrs. Curtis, who not only undertook all arrangements, but lent her house. Sale will be continued in shop till Christmas. Many thanks to Miss Walters, Miss Daisy Pitt, and others who have collected so many signatures to petition asking for complete release of Miss Gladys Evans. All must concentrate on working women's deputation meetings. (Org., Miss Pridden. Office, 37, Queen's-road, Clifton.)

Chichester. Jumble sale, 5 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 11, at Baysbill Lecture Hall. Please send all contributions there on morning of Jan. 11, or any time before that date to Miss E. J. Andrews, 2, Victoria-walk. If preferred, goods can be placed at shop, and brought by getting up women's deputation. (Org., Miss Pridden. Office, 37, Queen's-road, Clifton.)

Ilfracombe. Members' meeting held in week well attended considering bad weather. Mrs. Page has kindly offered to give 3d. to local branch

Wales. Cardiff and District. Mrs. Drummond's speech in Queen's Hall on Friday was immensely enjoyed by friends and foes. Mr. Vernon Hartshorn, C.C., presided. Names of women who would like to join deputation which Mrs. Drummond is going to lead to House of Commons in January will be gladly received by organiser. All parcels for jumble sale to be sent to office as soon as possible after Dec. 20. Office reopens Dec. 31. During organiser's absence THE SUFFRAGETTE can be obtained from Miss Flagg, Pembroke-terrace. Thanks to 'Last' for 2s., and to Misses H. and A. Gelder, 2s. Mrs. Pankhurst's visit is fixed for Wednesday, Feb. 19, and Cory Hall has been booked. (Org., Miss Annie Williams. Office, 27, Charles-street.)

Eastern Counties. Cambridge and District. Large audience gathered in Guildhall to hear Mrs. Pankhurst on Thursday. Many ladies turned away at doors. Considerable interest aroused by her speech. Miss Georgina Broadbent presided. All the members who worked so hard to make the meeting a success are congratulated on result. Many thanks due to those members of Men's League who helped to steward. Early in New Year a meeting is to be held for working women in connection with Mrs. Drummond's deputation to Mr. Asquith. A lantern lecture showing the history of the militant Suffrage agitation is also being arranged. Details later. Gratefully acknowledged: Miss Margaret Bartels, 5s.; Miss Potter, 10s.; Miss Churchill, 10s.; per Mrs. Bartels, 4s. (Org., Miss O. Bartels, 11, New-square.)

Ipswich and District. Members are reminded to bring their friends to see numerous pretty Christmas gifts, cards, and calendars now on sale in shop. Shop will close for a few days after Dec. 24. (Org., Miss Grace Ross. Shop, Sec. King's Shop, Dial-lane.)

Norwich and District. Mr. Lansbury will speak at Agricultural Hall between Jan. 20 and 22. It is also hoped that another reception may be arranged about this time. Mrs. Pankhurst's visit to Norwich has aroused great interest, and general indignation felt at refusal to give her a hearing campaign at beginning of New Year. Shop closed for Christmas week and reopened Dec. 30. (Org., Miss Gladys Hazel. Office, 14, Bowling-green-street.)

North-Eastern Counties. Bradford. Monday's tea well attended and much business done. On Tuesday Mrs. Sutcliffe Greaves, Miss Campbell, and Mrs. Norton went to Duseley to address League of Young Liberals, and had very successful meeting. Papers sold out. On Thursday two outdoor meetings had been arranged for Mrs. Baines, who was visiting Bradford to arouse interest in Mrs. Drummond's forthcoming deputation. Further particulars later. Gratefully acknowledged: £2 6s. for shop expenses, per Mrs. Newton to Advertisement Fund, Mrs. Potter, 10s.; profit on needlework; Mr. Potter, 10s.; Miss Millar Wilson, 7s. 6d., sale of honey; Miss Vaughan, 6d.; 2s. sale of goods (miscellaneous). Members should call at shop and patronise Mr. Thorpe's beautiful show of Christmas cards. Next tea, Monday, Dec. 30. (Hon. Sec., Miss Millar Wilson. Office, 68, Manningham-lane.)

Doncaster. Mrs. Anderson's 'At Home' most successful. Audience listened with deep interest to Miss Taylor's splendid address. The Suffragettes sold well. Meetings are being arranged in Doncaster in January, also visit drive and dance. Organiser will be at Albany Hotel every Friday from Jan. 3, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Members and sympathisers please call for particulars re meetings, &c. THE SUFFRAGETTE and Literature will be on sale. (Org., Miss Key Jones. Hon. Sec., Miss Browne, 61, Brookholme-lane.)

Hull. Next fortnightly members' meeting, Dec. 20, Fulford Rooms, Beverley-road. Each member urged to bring friends and so increase membership. Thanks to all friends who contributed to parcel sent to Christmas sale at Lincoln's Inn House. Miss Annie Kenney has been carried without amendment on Feb. 3. Will all members bear that date in mind and concentrate on making visit a success? (Hon. Sec., Miss C. A. Little, 65, Park-street.)

Leeds. Mrs. Cohen and Miss Foster will speak at Harbills Socialist Church on Dec. 27 at 7 p.m. Members will visit Hull on Friday. Excellent meeting held Thursday last at rooms by Mr. F. King. Welcome to two members who were absent from meeting. Office closed Dec. 20 to Dec. 30. (Hon. Sec., Mrs. Henry Cohen. Office, 3, Cookridge-street.)

Newcastle and District. Members asked to bring friends to cake and candy sale to be held in shop Saturday, Dec. 21, 5.30. All contributions should be sent in before noon. Excellent meeting held at Coleraine, when Miss Hicks made clear and logical speech. Mrs. Crow is making a wide canvass round district for volunteers for Mrs. Drummond's deputation. Organiser appeals for contributions towards expenses of deputation. Shop closed on Christmas Day only. Sunderland.—Successful meeting held in Edward Hall and Miss Hicks delighted her audience with speech on militant tactics. Dr. Alice Burn presided and made appeal for members. Mrs. Crow wishes to thank members in Sunderland and Jarrow for postcard-parading and stewarding. (Org., Miss L. Mitchell. Office, 77, Blackett-street.)

Sheffield. Sale of shop very successful. There are still a great number of Christmas presents, useful and varied, left for those who have not yet purchased. It is expected that Mrs. Lansbury will speak in Sheffield at 8 p.m. on January 1. Will members call at shop for information, as meeting must be best ever had here? Office will be closed Dec. 23 and 24 and Jan. 1. (Hon. Sec., Miss E. M. Schuster. Office, 26-28, Chapel-walk.)

York. Last office tea before Christmas on Wednesday most successful. Committee met Dec. 12, decided to continue office teas after Christmas. American supper is being arranged. Members should call at office for particulars. The jumble sale will take place after Christmas. More office and parcels will be sent for. Next meeting Jan. 7. Speaker, Miss Ada Suffolk, Scarborough. Members urged to make this meeting a great success. (Org., Miss Key Jones. Office, Colby-chambers, Coppergate. Tel. 692.)

North-Western Counties. Barrow-in-Furness. Mrs. Drummond's mass meeting of Dec. 8 has broken all records of public meetings in Barrow. Three hundred Suffragettes sold and fine collection taken. The stewards—all ladies—are to be congratulated. During holiday paper can be had of Miss Gladys Weston, Broad Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness. Members, please hold yourselves in readiness for members' meeting early in January, at which Mrs. Grew will make a very important announcement. (Org., Miss Elizabeth Welch, 5, Clarence-road.)

Liverpool. Enthusiastic meeting held George Lane. Speakers, Mrs. Pankhurst, Mr. Picton Lansbury. New members made, splendid collection taken. Many thanks to all those who helped to advertise, especially to Miss Shepherson, Miss Martin, and the fifteen who formed effective poster parade. (Org., Miss H. Jollie. Office, 11, Renshaw-atree.)

Manchester. Office closes today for the holidays and reopens Monday, Jan. 6. Next meeting held in (ward-building, Deansgate, Friday, Jan. 10, 7.30 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Aldridge, secretary Women's Trades Union Council, Chair, Mrs. Race. As this will be first meeting in New Year, it is hoped members will attend in full force. Secretary will be glad to receive names of any who are able to join Mrs. Drummond's deputation. Special fund is being opened to cover expenses. Mrs. Blair is very anxious to increase sale of THE SUFFRAGETTE, and will be grateful if anyone with any time to spare will help with this important work. A seller is especially needed for Sunday afternoon to sell at Newington Hall, (Hon. Sec., Mrs. K. Wallwork. Office, 32, King-street West.)

Preston. Will members make a point this festive season of winning one friend each to understand the call for Mrs. Drummond's gathering together of working women? Will they urge this friend to hear Mrs. Baines, who will explain project on Monday, Dec. 30, 7.30 p.m., in I.L.P. rooms, 152, Church-street, Preston. (Hon. Sec., Mrs. Rigby, 24, Winkley-square.)

Walsley. Meeting held Monday, Dec. 9, at B.W.T.A. rooms, 1, Mainwaring-road, Seacombe. Miss Francis presided. Miss Craig read paper on 'Where Fatherhood Fails.' Earnest appeal made to working women to join deputation being organised by Mrs. Drummond. Next meeting Jan. 6, 1913. (Hon. Sec., Miss Lee, 58, Belvidere-road.)

Scotland. Aberdeen. Will members kindly note that shop will be closed for Christmas and New Year holidays from Monday, Dec. 25, to Thursday, Jan. 2, except for an hour from 12 noon to 1 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, Dec. 27 and 28, on paper-selling. (Hon. Sec., Miss Emily Fussell. Office, 7, Bon Accord-street.)

Dundee. A public meeting in I.L.P. Hall, Abreboth, addressed by Miss Parker, Thursday, Dec. 12. Further offers of help to keep office open and to sell paper during Christmas holiday, from Dec. 20 to 30, will be gladly received. Will members and friends come and buy our Christmas cards and calendars at office or at market stall? Speakers' classes will be discontinued till Wednesday, Jan. 8. Members and friends cordially invited to attend these classes. On Sunday, Dec. 15, a well-attended meeting of the Postmen's Federation (Outdoor Branch) was addressed by Mrs. Renny. Mr. Lansbury's resolution carried unanimously. On twelve occasions since October the resolution has been put to Labour or Socialist organisations, and in nine cases out of twelve has been carried without amendment. (Org., Miss Parker. Office, 61, Nethergate.)

Edinburgh. Members warmly thanked for working up lantern lectures, which realised good amount for funds. Please support Christmas sale on Saturday, Miss Muriel Scott, M.A., led in debate, Are the Actions of the Militants Justifiable? at a crowded meeting in Kelso Town Hall last week. Negative side was taken by Miss Boydin, N.W.S.S. Members polled 92 votes, Miss Boydin 150. Miss Decima Moore's recitations at weekly meeting

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