THE VOTE.
July 6, 1912.
ONE PENNY.

LAUGHTER IN THE HOUSE.

THE WOIF

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

Vol. VI. No. 141.

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SATURDAY, JULY 6, 1912.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Signs of the Times.

The tremendous reduction in Colonel Seely's majority at the By-election at Ilkeston is another sign of the times. The transfer of nearly 3,000 votes to the Tory candidate on a practically safe seat is not comforting to the Government. The work of the Suffragists is being felt, but last week's events and the cynical callousness of the attitude in Parliament to women tortured to the point of death, show that the so-called "democrats" now in power are not eager to recognise the significance of such messages. Instead of winning the support of women eager to stand as citizens, shoulder to shoulder with men in the fight against evil, they

antagonise them, imprison them, and take behind precedent. Similar lessons are pending: Crewe and Hanley will speak next; the message will be repeated, as also the terms of peace—the inclusion of women in the Manhood Suffrage Bill. We regret, very sincerely, the death of so staunch a friend of our Cause as Mr. Walter McLaren, the late Member for Crewe. His help in our own and other great Causes can ill be spared.

Contemptible Taunts.

We are in no way surprised that the absolute lack of ability to recognise heroism and devotion to principle shown by the Prime Minister in his contemptible taunt that the Suffrage prisoners could walk out when they liked on promising not to repeat their offence, should have moved Mr. Lansbury to an outburst of indignation. "P. W. W.," of The Daily News and Leader, made a tearful demand for sympathy with the Prime Minister on the ground that torture—admitted at last—had not been all on one side; that Mr. Asquith had borne his share. We point out that the Prime Minister can "be free at any moment" from all suffering and fear of women, not by sacrificing his

principles, but by acting constitutionally and allowing the favourable majority in his Cabinet to prevail. From his previous record this seems too much to expect; the constitution of this country in Mr. Asquith's eyes is the will of Mr. Asquith.

Muddle, Misrepresentation and Mediæval Methods.

The Home Secretary cut a poor figure in the House on



Friday last. It is undoubtedly significant of the irresistible force behind the woman's movement that the light laughter and genial jokes of the "gentlemen" in the House have given place to a debate on a vote of censure on the Minister responsible for forcible feeding. Mr. McKenna, of course, quoted precedent to show that he was the most blameless of individuals and helpless in the hands of the law. But even The Daily News and Leader, which displays as a rule a pathetic eagerness to whitewash the Government, says:—

Mr. McKenna's statement, directed to showing that the treatment in the second division under the Churchill modifica-tions does not differ essentially from the treatment in the first division, does not, as he is aware, touch the real point. It is the status for which the prisoners are fighting. The nature of the punishment is a secondary consideration.

It supports Mr. Tim Healy's plea for a truce, and the immediate release of the prisoners on the ground that they have been punished enough; but it looks as though the Government prefers to torture women to the point of death, sheltering itself behind the contemptible plea of precedent and legal quibbles. As a matter of fact, everyone who is not blinded by the spirit of obstinacy and hatred knows that the present situation is absolutely unprecedented. Dark as some of the pages of English history have been, never before have they been stained by the record of hundreds of women, imprisoned for a political offence, forcibly fed, and driven to the point of death rather than given the status to which they are entitled.

The Politician's Reward for Good Conduct.

For the last twenty-five years the Liberal Women have been the unpaid drudges of their party. The good time coming when the vote would be their reward has always been dangled before their eyes, particularly at election times. How do they feel now that it is being threatened in the pages of The Daily News that, owing to the action of a few hundreds of women from whom the thousands of Women Liberals have always piously dissociated themselves, the reward of the vote is again impossible? The way to this disappointment is being carefully prepared; Mr. Macdonald's tirade renders unexpected support, and The Daily News writers, P. W. W." and Harold Spender, are harping suspiciously upon the difficulty of carrying amendments because of the recent events. Lloyd George proudly boasted that he had "torpedoed" the hated Conciliation Bill, but he is now being deprived of this "honour" by his own pet journalists, who thrust it upon militant women and leave the Nationalist Members quite out of consideration. If this is the reward meted out to good and faithful Liberal women, it will not induce others to join their ranks. It is too evident that only the rebels count in the eyes of politicians; again, it is being proved that liberty cannot be bought by service or won by good conduct. Governments continue to decree that it is one of the things for which women must fight, as men have done in the past, but while they deplore the fight and call it "policy of pin pricks," they refuse to take the one way which will bring peace.

Strong Medical Protest Against Forcible Feeding.

Last week we recorded how the legal profession was protesting against the continued imprisonment of women Suffragists; this week we record that the strong feeling among the great majority of medical men and women, constantly expressed in public and in private, has crystallised into the following memorial, which was sent to the Home Secretary by one hundred and seventeen medical practitioners. In a covering letter, Sir Victor Horsley writes :-

"Sir,—I beg to enclose a copy of a letter to the Home Secre-"Sir,—I beg to enclose a copy of a letter to the Home Secretary, signed by 117 medical practitioners, in which they call attention to the dangers of forcible feeding. The conditions under which the operation is (forcibly) performed in the case of resisting prisoners are totally different from those existing in asylums and hospital cases (the medical conditions) which necessitate artificial feeding. The signatories include Sir Victor Horsley, Mr. Arbuthnot Lane, Morton Smale, Professor Halliburton, Mr. Mansell Moullin, Dr. Percy Mitchell, Professor

Brodie, Dr. Helen Webb, Professor Augustus Waller, Dr. E. Davies Colley, Dr. Cuthbert Lockyer, Mr. Percy Flemming, Mr. Wilmott Evans, Dr. Jane Walker, and others. The memorandum has been prepared in the ocurse of a few hours, as the signatories considered the matter to be of the utmost possible

The memorial is as follows :-

"We, as members of the medical profession, strongly protest against the forcible feeding to which certain prisoners are at present being subjected. We consider that tube feeding in cases where the operation is resisted by the patient, is accompanied by immediate risk to life, in addition to the danger of permanent damage to the health, both of body and of mind. We urge that this practice be discontinued."

Watch the Authorities!

THE VOTE

The need for women to be on the watch is strikingly shown in the news of her experiences which has been sent us by Miss Clara Lee, of Thistledown, Letchworth, who points out how she forced an admission of error from the Inland Revenue Authorities. She

"As a tax resister, the following experiences prove the carelessness of Government officials. Having refused to pay Inhabited House Duty (8s. 9d.) to the local collector, I was reported by him to the surveyor for this district, who sent a demand containing two maccuracies. I wrote to point that one ought not to have occurred, seeing that we had had compulsory education since 1868; the other, he would see did not agree with the original:—

Local Demand.		Surveyor's I	rem	and	l.	
S	. d.		£	S.	d.	
Schedule A 5	0	Schedule A	0	5	0	
House Duty 8	9	", В	1	1	5	
		House Duty	0	. 8	9.	

"Schedule B, I found, applied to nurseries and market gardens. So I wrote pointing out that the nearest connection I had to either, was that under the Lloyd George Insurance Act I was classed with agricultural labourers. To this I received the following latter

" 4, Cardiff-road, Luton, March 11, 1912.

"' Inland Revenue—Surveyor of Taxes.
"'MADAM,—Referring to your letter of the 9th inst., I much regret that £1 ls. 5d. was included upon your demand note in error—the entry relating to the next person upon the collector's return.—Yours faithfully, (Signed) G. R. Simpson.'

"Is this the exactness of the work for which women, as well as men, pay so heavily? How long would a commercial firm exist, if it allowed such errors? How long would the public tolerate such mistakes by women workers in our hospitals and elsewhere? The title of idiot, lunatic and criminal must revert to the people responsible for such a condition of things. The 8s. 9d. Inhabited House Duty has now been deducted from my claim of return Income-tax; this seems an unusual proceeding.'

THE STEAD MEMORIAL.*

"We don't want a dead statue. We want a living statue. —F. Herbert Stead at the Stead Memorial Meeting, where the bassing of the Criminal Law Amendment Bilf was urged as the most suitable recognition of his brother's life and work.]

Out of the deep he calls—the unwrecked soul, On the deep he cans—the unwrecked soul,
On its last voyage faring through the night,
Hailed the new worlds that in the darkness roll,
But left to this the memory of its light.
Now, from that sea of tears whose every tide
Sad flotsam bears of derelict maidenhood,
He calls us—standing by the lost one's side.
As he for ever stood.

No marble-built memorial would he seek: Give him, for monument, the ended wrong, The tear dried on the helpless victim's cheek, In those dark halls where nameless miscries throng. Help for the fallen who had no will to fall, For the innocence decoyed to utter loss!

Nail we the Christ, where His maid-martyrs call,

Anew unto His cross?

For still their call is heard, in street on street Of city on city, where the gas-lamps glare; Still secret tears and tragic laughter meet For these—and who shall lift the load they bear? He bore it with them—fought with voice and pen
Their battle—bore for them the prison brand.
In the great law that frees the Magdalen Let his memorial stand!

* W. T. Stead was born on July 5. The birthday poem which the writer has always hitherto offered to himself is now offered to

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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Hon. Departmental Offic. Political Organiser-Miss NINA BOYLE, VOTE Sales Department—Mrs. FISHER.

Press Department—Mrs. HARVEY, Brackenhill, Bromley, Kent.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

National Executive Committee .- A meeting of the committee was held at these offices last Saturday, those present being Mrs. Despard, Dr. Knight, Miss Jack, Miss Munro, Mrs. Snow, Mrs. Fisher, Mrs. Schofield Coates, Miss Andrews, Miss Clark, Miss Boyle, Mrs. Tippett, Mrs. Huntsman, Mrs. Mustard, Miss Heyes (representing Manchester) and the secretary. Mrs. Schofield Coates was voted to the Chair. Reports of the work done in the various departments were given by Dr. Knight, Miss Boyle, Miss Underwood, Miss Munro, and Miss Thomas, and in each case the committee expressed satisfaction with the report. Future plans for political and militant work were thoroughly discussed and a sub-committee appointed to co-operate with Miss Boyle to carry out the necessary details and arrangements. The committee unanimously passed a resolution, sending a message of sympathy with Miss Neilans in her prolonged illness. All who know her will be sorry to learn that she is not progressing so favourably as her friends had hoped. The committee was exceedingly pleased at the activity manifested by the Branches during the past month, and expressed hope that the number of open-air meetings and Vote pitches may be increased in every district as the summer advances. With regard to the work at the office, the secretary pointed out that it had recently been very heavy, and the committee decided that Miss Emily Hunt, who has for several years worked in the office, should be appointed assistant secretary. This appoint ment will not only be popular among our members, but it will be generally agreed that the promotion is thoroughly well earned and appropriate. The office is in need of a new type-writer, and any donations sent by our readers towards its cost will be gratefully acknowledged and conduce to the saving of much time and

Scottish Campaign.—The West Coast of Scotland Holiday Campaign is now in full swing. A good house has been taken in Rothesay—the Naples of the North for the two months of July and August. As the rent is shared and eo-operative work is the order of the day, expenses are very light indeed, and the railway companies run very cheap tickets from London and other towns, so in August we hope that Miss Anna Munro, who is in charge of the campaign, will not be handicapped by want of workers. Names of volunteers, speakers especially, should be sent in at once to the campaign headquarters-77, Montague Street, Rothesay, Isle of Bute, Scotland.

Joint Demonstration in Hyde Park, Sunday Afternoon, July 14.-Cordial thanks are offered to the band of stewards, sellers and collectors who helped so much to make our Trafalgar-square Demonstration a success last Saturday, and we invite them to render us similar service at the Joint Demonstration arranged by the W.S.P.U. on the 14th inst. All members and friends of the W.F.L. who are in London that day are urged to come and support our speakers—Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, and Mrs. Merivale Mayer.

At Homes.—The At Homes at Caxton Hall have been discontinued until the autumn, but members and friends are asked to support the open-air meetings arranged in their district.

International Suffrage Fair.—Readers will be delighted to learn that Mrs. Harvey has kindly undertaken all arrangements for the International Suffrage

Fair to be held by the Women's Freedom League in November. Further particulars will appear in later issues of The Vote, or can be obtained from Mrs. Harvey, Brackenhill, Highland-road, Bromley, Kent.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

ALICE MILLS.

91-93, Westbourne Grove, London, W.

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USEFUL BARGAINS WORTH SECURING.

Ladies' Nainsook Camisoles, trimmed Lace and Insertions.

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Also Allover Embroidery or Allover Lace Net Slips—
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All offered at 1/9%

Ladies' India Gauze Combinations, fine soft finish, Low or High Neck and Short Sleeves. Price 1/93

Ladies' Vests, Ribbed, with Crochet Tops, or of India Gauze Low or High Neck. Two sizes. All offered at 1/- each Ladies Nainsook Combinations, trimmed Lace and Insertions.
Fancy Tops. Strongly made and well finished. Many Designs.
Sale Prices, 2/9\frac{3}{4}, 3/9\frac{3}{4}, 4/9\frac{1}{2}

Ladies Satin Underskirts. Flat Pleated Flounce, in all colours; also Black or Ivory. Sale Price, 4/63

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GOVERNMENT WITHOUT CONSENT.

The National Executive Committee, at its monthly meeting on June 29, discussed the situation arising from the introduction of the Franchise and Registration Bill, and the chances of securing the passage of an amendment including women. It was decided that protests be held continuously throughout the country from the moment of the second reading without the inclusion of women-there being now no possibility of any other prospect on second reading-with the object of keeping public opinion fixed upon the insult conveyed to one-half of the citizens of the country. The meeting in Trafalgar-square, organised to meet this situation, served to make a timely announcement of the intentions of the League.

In accordance with the spirit displayed by the delegates to the Special Conference, plans for active militancy are being carefully considered. The protests, however, will not take an actively aggressive form until matters have reached a more definite point.

In the meantime, resistance to "government without consent" is to be carried on, as recommended by the Conference, "continuously and persistently steps are being taken to follow up the Tax Resistance and Census Resistance protests by resistance to the Insurance Act. The W.F.L. will refuse all information and all contributions in respect of its employees, and will provide legal advice and assistance for members and sympathisers who may join in this form of protest.

It is to be clearly understood that the League does not associate itself with those who question the principle upon which National Insurance is based, nor with those who object to a "servant tax." It resists and protests against government without consent in a so-called selfgoverning country, irrespective of the excellence or otherwise of the laws imposed.

PRESENT ELECTION POLICY OF THE W.F.L.

To support, at three-cornered election contests, a candidate standing in the Labour interest, so as to split the Government vote, and to constitute a serious menace to the Liberal strength. This policy must not be regarded as in any sense pledging the W.F.L. to the Labour Party or programme; it is only an elaboration and extension of the anti-Government policy, on lines which will cause the greatest amount of embarrassment in Liberal strongholds. It is directed against the Government rather than for Labour, and it will not be put in force against tried and proven friends in the Liberal party.

BY-ELECTION WORK. Ilkeston.

The Women's Freedom League was represented at the Ilkeston election contest for a few days only, the non-appearance of a Labour candidate on nomination day robbing the fight of half its excitement. There was no doubt whatsoever of the popularity of the women's question, and all meetings were well attended and secured deeply interested audiences. A

MEETING

CRIMINAL LAW AMENDMENT

(WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC) BILL

On Wednesday, July 10, 8.15 p.m.,

At KENSINGTON TOWN HALL. ADELINE DUCHESS OF BEDFORD

SPEAKERS: LADY BUNTING, Mrs. HERBERT LEWIS,

striking feature was the interest taken in the question by the working women and girls, who eagerly caught at the idea that this was "something for us," and responded very heartily

that this was "something for us," and responded very hearthy to the suggestion that their work and services were of supreme importance to the world.

Dinner-hour meetings were also a success, and the time put in cannot be considered other than well spent. The three societies worked in great harmony and friendliness throughout, there being nothing conflicting in the policy adopted by each. Colonel Seely's great personal popularity, and the "good looks" that appeared to have an even greater influence on the male than on the female mind, made his return a matter of course in the absence of a rival to whom Labour men and Radicals, who uphold real democracy, could give their votes. A good uphold real democracy, could give their votes. A good deal of bad feeling was observable in Liberal circles, and the only unpleasant incidents came from Liberal rather than antionly unpleasant incidents came from Liberal rather than antisuffrage supporters. The breaking of the Labour Bureau windows, attributed without much evidence to the W.S.P.U., was supposed by many to be a device of the enemy to cast discredit on the Suffragists. Mr. Samuels and Miss Mabel Smith represented the noble army of the N.L.O.W.S., but confined their efforts in the main rather to asking questions and "influencing" individual members of the community than to holding meetings or running an organised campaign.

The result is significant, showing that Colonel Seely lost nearly 3,000 votes; his majority in 1910 was 4,044; on July 1 it was 1 211.

The Hanley and Crewe Contests.

The death of Mr. Enoch Edwards will create another vacancy in the constituencies, which will lead to a three-cornered contest. In the constituencies, which will lead to a three-confered contest. The W.F.L. Branch in the Potteries has offered joyful cooperation, and our best speakers will be sent down to support them. Mrs. Despard has announced her intention of helping in the fight, and Suffragists should strain every nerve to prevent the seat falling to an out-and-out Government supporter.

The sudden death of Mr. Walter McLaren, Member for Crewe, leads to yet another by election in which the Government.

The sudden death of Mr. Walter McLaren, Member for Crewe, leads to yet another by-election, in which the Government will have to put out its full strength. Mr. McLaren comes of a family that has fought strenuously within the Liberal ranks for justice to women, and it will not be forgotten that he it was who decided that until women were included among his constituents, that portion of his M.P.'s salary which might be considered to be the share paid by women should be given to the women's Cause. His death robs us of a "tried and proven friend," against whose return to Parliament no member of the W.F.L. would have worked, and our sympathy is heartily tendered to his widow and family. endered to his widow and family.

CONGRATULATIONS TO CROYDON.

The excellent enterprise of the Croydon Branch, as evidenced in the four extra pages of our last issue, for which they undertook the financial responsibility, but which was covered by advertise-ment receipts, is bearing fruit almost beyond expectation. The advertisers, confident of the soundness of the investment, rallied in force to support the venture; they are already reaping rewards, and our Croydon friends are determined to impress upon others the excellent facilities Croydon offers through these upon others the excellent facilities Croydon offers through these advertisers to supply their needs. The free distribution in Croydon of more than a thousand copies of The Vote, not only advertised the fete on July 6, but brought home to many homes the importance of the Woman's Cause, and thus did excellent propaganda work. The example of Croydon should be stimulating to other Branches organising fetes and demonstrations, and THE VOTE office will gladly co-operate with them in the same way as was done with Croydon. Meanwhile we wish the Croydon fete a record financial success, and large increase of membership as a result of a gathering which offers a wealth of delightful

THEOSOPHICAL ART CIRCLE.

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SPEAKERS: LADY BUNTING, Mrs. HERBERT LEWIS,
Miss MARY MURDOCH, M.D., and Mrs. PHILIP SNOWDEN.

WOMEN ONLY ADMITTED.

The cast will include Miss Maud Hoffmann, Miss Gwendolen
Bishop, Miss I. M. Martyr, Miss Mavis Yorke, Mr. Robert
Farquharson, Mr. Julian Gade, and Mr. Percy Varley.

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Seats: 7s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d., and a few at 1s.,

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Seats: 7s. 6d., 5s., 2s. 6d., and a few at 1s.,

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Oakleigh Park, London, N.

OUR TREASURY. NATIONAL FUND.

(Branch and District Funds not Included.) Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1911, £14,208 13s. 7d.

£	S.	d.		d.
Amount previously ac-			Miss A. Palmer 0 1	0
knowledged £1,149	1	9	Miss Watson 0 1	0
Mrs. Tippett 0	14	0	Delegate's Expenses:	
Miss M. I. Saunders 0	10	0	Hampstead 0 15	11
Miss Jacobs (collected) 0	5	01	Press Department:	
Miss Barnet 0	5	0	Sept., 1911, to June,	
Mrs. Fisher 0		0	1912 17 0	0
Mrs. Eva Graves 0		0	Political and Militant	
Mrs. Eva Graves 0 Mrs. Whitley. 0 Miss Bell 0 Miss Hurry 0 Miss G. Mallett 0 Miss Farkyn 0 Miss Lois Turner 0 Miss Lois Turner 0 Miss L. Haward 0 Mrs. Lillian Ball 0 Miss Briscoe 0	5	0	Dept.:	
Miss. William 0	2	6	Miss M. L. Stirling. 1 1	0
Miss Bell 0	2	6	Miss Mary Anderson 1 0	0
Miss Hurry	2	6	Caravan:	
Miss G. Manett 0	9	6	Miss Lee 5 0	0
Miss Parkyll 0	2	6	Per Miss Andrews :	
Miss Lois Turnet 0	ĩ	6	Mrs. Tudor 0 7	0
Miss K. Haward 0	- 1	6	Collections 0 19	71
Miss L. Haward 0	1	0	Received from	-
Mrs. Lillian Ball 0	1	0	guests 2 16	11
	1	0	Collections and Sales:	
MIS. Hulota Ozar	1	0	London 1 11	10
	1	0	Dolldon	100
Miss Janet Gibson 0	1	0	£1,183 5	81
Mrs. L. Hardy, M.D 0	1	0	21,100	0.2

To the Hon. Treasurer, Women's Freedom League.

Dear Madam,—Some months ago, owing, as we were informed, to the coal strike, the price of gas to householders in this neighbourhood was increased. This naturally led to searching for possible means of economy by those whose incomes have decreased. My gas record is now half what it used to be. I have creased. My gas record is now half what it used to be. I have effected other housekeeping economies, such as doing without confectionery, and I now say to friends arriving at the station: "I hope you won't mind walking, but some of our local cab owners and drivers being exploiters of women, I reduce my demand for vehicles"; also, I take my holiday on the Continent. I enclose cheque for the amount I have been able to save, and wish it to be added to the Caravan funds to prove to the electorate of the country that we women are in carnest when we ask to the country that we women are in earnest when we ask for just recognition of our claim to citizenship.—Yours very truly,

Thistledown, Letchworth, June 24.

BIRTHDAY PRESENT FUND.

To meet the wishes of many of our members and friends, the President's Birthday Fund will be kept open to the end of this month, and close on July 31. The first list of contributions to the fund will be published in next week's Vote.

HOW SOME MEN PROTECT WOMEN.

[All Branch Secretaries, and other members, who have kindly sent in Press cuttings and information concerning recent police-court cases, are very warmly thanked for their valuable assistance in contributing to this column.

Assaults on Children.

Peter Loftus, 20, of Glasgow, criminal assault on girl of seven, March 10. Sentenced by the Lord Justice Clerk in the Edinburgh High Court of Justice to eighteen months. In the same court, on the same day, James Mitchell, for the theft of a rusty saw, said to have been picked up on a rubbish heap, three years' penal servitude. Previous convictions. Married man with seven children.

Rairied man will seven children.

Robert Grant, 40, at Weymouth, on April 8, indecent assault on girl under thirteen. Had been previously sentenced to two years "for a much worse offence" (we quote *The Lymington Chronicle*). Two months' hard labour.

Cruelty and Assault.

John Darrock, miner, of Uddingston, charged before the Fiscal at Hamilton last month with "abusing his wife" with his fists and feet, and locking her out so that she had spent her nights for a week in the washouse and coal-cellar. Two

months.

Harry Hawes, charged before Mr. Fordham with assaulting his wife and knocking out two teeth. Had married her secretly, parted at the church door, and met to discuss arrangements when the assault took place. Had given her a paltry sum to live on, and falsely accused her of being drunk. Three months.

Albert Hopper, charged at West Ham before Mr. Harverson, by the N.S.P.C.C., with neglecting his six children and assaulting his wife. For three months had not given her more than 5s. a week, and on June 7, when she asked for money, beat her unmercitully. Chairman said it was "most brutal case he had ever heard." Six months.

Thomas Hughes, Glasgow, charged with leaving his children of nine, seven and four unattended for long periods, and failing to provide them with food. Found lying asleep in the open on a cold, wet night. Three months.

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POLITICAL NEWS.

Mr. Lansbury's Indignation.

Mr. Lansbury's Indignation.

On June 25, after questions about Miss E W Davison's attempt at suicide and the Prime Minister's assertion that he would not interfere with the responsibility of the Home Secretary, but that Suffragists could walk out of prison at once on undertaking not to commit their oftence again, Mr. Lansbury advanced to the Treasury Bench and exclaimed, "You know they cannot; it is perfectly disgraceful." Amid cries of "Order!" he continued: "It is perfectly disgraceful that the Prime Minister should make that statement. You know they Prime Minister should make that statement. You know the cannot. Did you ask William O'Brien to give an undertaking eannot. Did you ask William O'Brien to give an undertaking? You are beneath contempt. You eall yourselves gentlemen! You forcible feeders of women! You ought to be thrown out of public life. Talk about protesting! It is the most disgraceful thing in history. You ought to go down to history as the men who tortured innocent women. I say, Mr. Speaker, it is disgraceful that the Prime Minister of this country should tell these women that they can walk out when he knows perfectly well they cannot. Was the hon, member for Cork told he could go out on giving an undertaking? Here is a party who for the sake of votes defended William O'Brien when he refused to wear prison clothes." Or being asked by the Speaker to leave the House, Mr. Lansbury said: "I am not going out when this contemptible thing is being done, this torturing of women, murdering or driving them mad. You ought to be ashamed of yourselves, you who talk about principle is, and you ought to honour them, not laugh at their sufferings. They are fighting for a principle, and you would be better employed than you are if you would do the same. You should honour them for their womanhood. For the Prime Minister to tell the Commons of England that they can walk out is beneath contempt." Mr Lansbury then obeyed the ruling of the Speaker and withdrew for the rest of the day.

His Explanation.

His Explanation.

His Explanation.

Speaking at a W.S.P.U. gathering at the Savoy Theatre on June 27, Mr. Lansbury said there were three causes which made him act as he did in the House of Commons. One was because of the callous laughter which followed a Minister's statement about the forcible feeding. The next was because one of the former champions of the women's movement, but who had now a seat in the Cobinet, and who had sold his soul, said that the unhappy woman who had attempted to commit suicide did not really mean to do it else she would have chosen a longer drop. And on top of that the Prime Minister said that every woman could go free that night if she would only give a pledge. It seemed to him such a degradation of the whole pledge. It seemed to him such a degradation of the whole movement, such a lack of appreciation of what the movement was, that he felt he must protest against it.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald's Outburst.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, Leader of the Labour party, in a letter to *The Daily Chronicle* on June 27, wrote !—" Amidst the present agitations connected with the prison treatment of certain women have we quite forgotten the cause of Women's suffrage? I was under the impression that the whole of this agitation was for the sole purpose of getting women's names put on the Parliamentary register. We now know that the Conciliation Bill was defeated owing to the injurious effect of Conciliation Bill was defeated owing to the injurious effect of the action of one of the women's franchise societies, and the events of the past week have put almost insuperable difficulties in the way of any amendment in favour of Women's Suffrage that may be moved to the Reform Bill. Those who are really in favour of Women's Suffrage ought to consider where they now stand. . . . Mr. McKenna, I think, made a great blunder in not foreseeing what would happen when he transferred the leaders to the first division, and he must bear the responsibility of his mistake. The events now taking place inside our prisons are very disgraceful, and are all the more so not that they display any grand spirit of heroism, but that they only illustrate those pettifogging qualities which, insultingly to women, used to be known under the generic title of 'feminine.' But whilst this opposition and disgust are being voiced are we to be silent regarding the criminal betrayal of the Cause that thousands of women have made their own, and the wanton destruction of the movement for arming women with the Parliamentary vote? The whole of this tomfoolery is the creation of women who are in a position to throw into collecting plates handed round in the Albert Hall £10,000 at a minute's notice. It in no way represents either the mind or the manners of the great mass of working women when wells. the action of one of the women's franchise societies, and the It in no way represents either the mind or the manners of the great mass of working women whose well-being is being cruelly great mass of working women whose well-being is being cruelly sacrificed. Is the work of women like those who have stood by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies to go for nought—to be swept away in the deluge of reaction which must follow this hysterical campaign? . . . The repulsiveness of forcible feeding stirs up emotions which push every other feeling into the background. But let us all face the facts which lie behind awaiting to reveal themselves in the autumn. The Cause of women's enfranchisement is being ruined."

Rule 243a Wiped Out by Mr. McKenna.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, in a letter to *The Times* on June 26gives the following significant information:—"In my first
interview with the Governor after my admission to Holloway
Prison I asked him to let me see the rule. I was told, 'There
is no such rule now; it has been wiped out by the present
Home Secretary."

Mrs. Pankhurst, writing to the Press, says :- "We did not trike to end, or even shorten our term of imprisonment. Had the Home Secretary adopted the obviously right and just course, and given equal treatment to all alike, the strike would have ended; and, speaking for myself (and I believe Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence agree with me), I should have been content to remain in prison until the expiration of my sentence."

Irish Suffragists' Treatment.

Mr. Birrell, answering a question by Mr. Ginnell with regard to the treatment of Irish Suffragist prisoners said that "they had been granted all the privileges of first-class misdemeanants, and that the magistrate who tried the case expressed the opinion that they ought to be so treated." From the first they were permitted to have their own clothes, food, furniture, as well as books and newspapers. Since then they have been granted permission to write one letter and to see three visitors each day. Irish Suffragists' Treatment.

Amendments to the Reform Bill:

In response to the circular issued by Viscount Wolmer to Unionist members who are in fayour of woman franchise, a meeting was held on June 25 to consider what attitude should be adopted towards the Franchise and Registration Bill. Mr. be adopted towards the Franchise and Registration Bill. Mr. Alfred Lyttelton took the chair. The meeting was unanimous that every effort should be made to insert amendments in the Franchise Bill giving the suffrage to women on a limited basis, probably on the basis of the local government register. The Women's Suffrage Committee of the Labour party decided on June 25 to move amendments to the Franchise and Registration Bill in favour of adult suffrage. It is expected that meetings of other Suffragist groups will be held in the near future, and a joint conference may be held to decide the precise course of action to be taken in committee.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS AND SUFFRAGIST PRISONERS.

On June 28, in the House of Commons, on the Home Office vote, Mr. McKenna had to meet a vote of censure on his treatment of Suffragist prisoners, especially with regard to fcreible feeding. Lord Robert Cecil moved the reduction of Mr. McKenna's salary by £100. Mr. Keir Hardie was ready to do so, as the Labour Party had an official amendment on the Order Paper. It was noteworthy that Mr. Ramsay MacDonald was not in his place during the debate.

LORD ROBERT CECIL declared that he moved his amendment, not because he had any sympathy with law-breaking, but because he was convinced that Mr. McKenna's action was not likely to promote respect for the law or for justice. The grava-men of his charge against the Home Secretary was that Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the leaders in Pankhurst and Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, the leaders in the window-smashing campaign, and the more guilty persons, were given first division treatment, while those who had acted under their orders have been kept in the second division. The result, he said, had been that the prisoners had refused their food and had been forcibly fed. He read out to the House a statutory declaration made by one of those who had been forcibly fed describing her painful experience, and he expressed the conviction that, when feeding by tube was resisted, it might well described into torture.

well degenerate into torture.

Mr. Keir Hardie said the alternative to all this suffering and risk to life was to treat these women as their leaders had been treated. It was all very well to read of these things as dished up by a cynical Press, but it was a different matter when they

up by a cynical Press, but it was a different matter when they came into contact with the women; they realised that this outrage was equal to the worst form of outrage that could be perpetrated on a woman. The Home Office should put itself abreast of the Irish Office, and transfer the remaining women prisoners to the first division without delay.

Mr. Lansbury declared that women were outside the law; they were not allowed to make laws. When their forefathers were in that position they broke the laws over and over again. In the long run the House would be bound to bring women within the Constitution, and when they did that they would have peace. Until then the least they could do was to treat women when they committed offences against the law as the Liberal party under Mr. Gladstone had asked that the Irish members should be treated who had committed more serious offences than these women had done.

Mr. McKenna, in a long reply, dealt with the cases of Mrs.

offences than these women had done.

Mr. McKenna, in a long reply, dealt with the cases of Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and laid stress on the recommendation of the Judge as well as what he described as an assurance by the prisoners. He said: If upon the assurance being given he as Home Secretary had refused to place the prisoners in the first division he would have been showing bias against them, and would rightly have been charged with refusing to do for them as prisoners what he would have done for any other prisoner committed on any other charge. He stated that if he had exercised his own discretion he would have left them in the second division. He contended that if stated that if he had exercised his own discretion he would have left them in the second division. He contended that if he put all the other prisoners in the first division he would not have been acting in accordance either with constitutional practice or with the public interest. Their claim, he said, was that they should go into the first division as a matter of right. He submitted that he was not entitled to concede such a right, Parliament being alone entitled to do so.

Others who took part in the debate were Mr. Fletcher, Sir John Rolleston, Mr. Atherley Jones, Mr. Catheart Wason, Mr. MacCallum Scott. Mr. Tim Healy, and Mr. Snowden. A division being taken, the voting was: for the motion 69, against 213.

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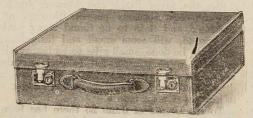
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SATURDAY, July 6, 1912.

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SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

LAUGHTER IN THE HOUSE.

Inhuman men smiled. The smile hurtled to a laugh.' We quote from The Standard of Wednesday, June 26. The scene was the House of Commons; the occasion a question asked by Mr. Keir Hardie on reported injuries to one of the Suffragist prisoners. The question was answered by Mr. Ellis Griffith, in the absence of the Home Secretary, and it was the humorous side of the incident, as given by Mr. McKenna's representative, that moved the House to mirth.

We know that the House of Commons dearly loves a joke. Speakers who, by sly touches of humour, or witty interludes, can provoke laughter will always be popular in Parliament. That is a great success, and many would be glad to achieve it. But how is it to be done?

To define a joke would be difficult. One point, however, seems perfectly clear. To be successful it must fall in with the temper of the assembly to which it is addressed. Satire, for instance, felt by some audiences as amusing, will by others be bitterly resented. The question for the ambitious satirist will be: "What heads will my missile strike—present heads or absent heads? If present, I may look for bad weather; if absent, and not at the moment popular, I shall have my coveted success-laughter-not at me, but with me.'

That is all quite natural and easy of interpretation. Menace, which presupposes fear and a certain respect, can be tolerated. "He threatens me," says the attacked person. "Well! We shall see which of us is the stronger.

But satire is redolent of contempt. The enemy, we believe, cannot hurt us; therefore, we do not threaten; that would be a waste of energy. We smile.

Let us dare now to analyse the elements of the Olympians' mirth at Westminster on June 25. human men"-this is a journalist's humoursmiled." With the twinkle in the eye of the "dark, theatrically featured Mr. Ellis Griffith," "the smile hurtled into a laugh.

Here is the picture that the successful satirist has drawn—the picture which amuses the House! A woman prisoner-alone, helpless-feeling blindly, it may be, but with a martyr's passion, "that a tragedy was wanted," threw herself on to a wire netting, a drop of about eight feet. Alas! if we could only understand it, life is the real tragedy, and we cannot always end it at will. Though she succeeded in giving herself another fall, she did not die; but she was cut and bruised. "Result!" says the satirist, "a few small bruises and abrasions." "Nothing serious," runs the report of the specialist, who, for the sake of tiresome public opinion, was called in. Forcible feeding to be resumed

And at this the gallant gentlemen in the House of Commons laugh, and the "dark, theatrically featured" speaker scores a triumph.

No doubt it was expected that the incident would

end then. Strangely enough, it did not. Further questions were asked, and at last the Prime Minister came to the help of his lieutenant, pointing out, in his sardonic way, that every one of these women might go out free, if they would promise not to offend again.

And then-what was it? Did one human being draw to himself the fire of many souls, or was it the breaking out into irresistible wrath of a single strong and pitiful spirit? Impossible to say! One thing is certain: all in a moment the laughter was over; the atmosphere changed; a strange passion swept the House. It was like the sudden upheaval of one of Nature's elemental forces. In one man the Human that in every one of us lies sleeping under the crust of convention had come to light, and there was no resisting it. George Lansbury-elected of the people, women truly as well as men, in the toiling, struggling district where he lives -had sprung to his feet. We all know what followed: the flood of passionate words; the shaken fist; the Prime Minister's flushed face; the cries of "Order!" the Speaker, very pale and, as we have heard, very gentle, on his feet, and then the suspension! Every incident of the scene is burnt in upon our brains as a picture never to be forgotten.

Life moves irresistibly onwards. Into the invisible passes the laughter—passes the storm. Practical, every-day life remains. For the purposes of life, that it may be sweet, clean, wholesome, possible, in the highest sense for all, we of the League for Woman's Freedom are working. We must therefore seek not only to understand but to use all the events, incidents and forces that are thrown out in our mighty struggle.

Laughter in the House over a woman who preferred death or severe injury to subjection; cold, critical condemnation of passion, appeals to reason, promises, pledges, threats, vindictive punishments-how are we o understand these? Surely even to the wilfully blind it must be evident that they spell weakness on the part of our opponents. Surely it must now be obvious to all that the physical force citadel on which the male person has based his claim to domination is trembling to its fall.

But if this is true, or even an approach to truth, how are we to use it?

First, by seeking to understand not only our opponents, but also those who, as some of us may feel, in mistaken ways, are working with us, those who are animated by the same spirit, and who are making for the same aims. We want a truer co-operation, a larger spirit of tolerance and charity, a broader platform, a truce to pettinesses and personalities. There are few of us who have not been hurt in this struggle: all personal grievances must be set aside-must be as if they were not. Further, we want not only enthusiasm (plenty of that has been evoked in our movement) but the power to draw from enthusiasm the fulness of force and value. There is all the difference in the world between a great fire dealing destruction in a crowded city and the steady glow on a household hearth. Both, indeed, have their uses, and there are times when the devouring of fire is needed. But ever to be truly effective the one must follow the other. For the evolution of that quiet, steady, inconquerable force which, 'like the vivid flame and burning torch, mounteth upwards and securely passeth through all" we are seeking; and it is to be found along paths that, to the proud, will seem small and insignificant. Little things to be done, small gifts to be bestowed, fragments of time to be consecrated to service; dear bought leisure to be given up-these, with the capacity to draw them together, will make our League effective as it has never been before.

To the events of June 25 there has been a sequel. Again women were in the lobby, watching, waiting, seeking information from all who came and went. The conduct of the Home Secretary towards the Suffragist prisoners was being brought into question. What would have meant a vote of censure was being asked for. It was lost. The House, as we were told, seemed

to recognise the injustice; but it was indifferent and unsympathetic. Only sixty-nine men were found to vote for righteousness. Two hundred and thirteen, by their vote, declared their approval of injustice. At the doors of the supreme Court of Justice in the nation the women of the nation have been knocking. They have met scorn and indifference. Can any wonder if a great C. Despard. fire be kindled?

TRAFALGAR SQUARE. FROM THE EDGE OF THE CROWD.

It was only one of the ordinary women's meetings. The rag-tag and bob-tail of the crowd were there, sweltering in the hot sun; the speakers, pink with exertion, were swaying and bending on the plinth of the column. The roar of the traffic, as it rolled past the Square to Charing Cross, was continuous; the sound of the fountains splashing into the cool basins was muffled music. basins was muffled music.

basins was muffled music.

"Frith should have perpetuated it," said a man, pausing on the outskirts and listening to the passionate words that poured from the orator's lips.

"The trouble is that he wouldn't have perpetuated it," answered his friend. "He'd only have painted it."

"Cynic," smiled critic number one. "Why don't you paint it yourself?"

it yourself?"

His friend took in the picture in perspective, the Greek background of the National Gallery, the grey tones of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields with the wide stone steps and open doors beckoning to prayer, the tragic figure of Gordon of Khartoum between the two fountains with their rush and shiver of shining water, and in the foreground the tall column of Nelson, at whose feet rested the banners of green, gold and white, the colours of the women who were asking an active share in the ideal of the sailor hero, "England, Home and Duty." "Listen," said the painter.

said the painter.
The clear voice ear voice penetrated above the roar of wheels. Where the men are, the women are. When they left their dead in South Africa, the women were there too, nursing, praying, dead in South Africa, the women were there too, nursing, praying, dying—aye, dying in their hundreds, devoured in the maw of the insatiable Moloch, War. What you suffer, we suffer. In time of war we're with you; in election time you crawl to us. But in time of peace you say, 'Your place is the home.' But I say to you that part of our work is to see that you are fit to cope with the devastation that lies in the wake of tion. Now, we want to co-operate, to press forward hygiene in houses, to knock down legislation that penalises us and our children, that bars our intellectual progress, that puts obstacle after obstacle in our professional paths, that keeps us a servile and a subject race. Like another denouncer whose figure will remain for ever as the accuser of those who stand in the tribunal of Justice, I point the finger of condemnation at you, and I say in his words, 'J'accuse, j'accuse, j'accuse, j'accuse!'' A storm of applause greeted the outburst as the speaker retired to her position at the base of the pedestal. "Dramatic,—but not asthetic," said the painter. But his friend was silent.

"It's a historic protest after all," he said, after a pause.
"But futile. What's moral force against physical? The House has the power of number on its side. What can the

Clear-cut came his answer from the stone platform. Another woman was speaking now, a working woman with a flow of rhetoric born of experience of cruel conditions. What will the Government do when the women strike in

their millions?"

"Build more prisons," jeered an unkempt youth with the dawn of manhood on his unhealthy face.

"Ay, my lad, for the like of you perhaps. But if you had had decent surroundings, you wouldn't; have grown up to jeer at your mother, who is probably cooking your own dinner now and making a home that the Government doesn't help to keep fresh and sweet. We want to help them do that,—and

The painter and sweet. We want to nell them do that,—and to help you too, though you won't listen to us."

The painter and his friend moved off.

"It's a good scene. I'll do a skit for Punch."

"Yes, do," said a woman who had been standing near, "and earn a guinea by the martyrdom of the women." She turned to the painter's friend.

"But you'll buy a VOTE, won't you?"

He looked at her for a moment. "Yes, I'll buy a Vote, and you can send me one every week." He scribbled his address on one of the pamphlets she carried, put half-a-crown in the collecting-box, and took a paper.

"You're damned plucky!" he said.

SCENE II.

It was a gusty afternoop. Once more the gold and green banners stood out in relief against the tall pedestal on which Nelson fronted the world, once more the gold and green pennons fluttered over the couchant lions, and waved the colours of freedom in the crowded Square. The scene was the same. Only the speakers were different. Drama was represented. The Fabians were represented. The red banner flared between the white and gold, and the motto, "Dare to be Free," flung out its embroidered defiance to the winds. Numbers of police-

men bordered the base of the column, an unconscious stage

managed symphony in blue.
"Odi profanum vulgum," muttered a weary youth of twenty-two, recently escaped from Oxford, as he steered his exquisite way between a woman with a baby and a shovel-hatted newsdor who had been shouting his atheistic wares with blasphemous unction. "But 'Fiat Justitia, cælum ruat,'" quoted a lady behind

m with a twinkle.

He stared for a rude second.
"Never mind the crowd, listen to the speaker," she added

"Never mind the crowd, listen to the speaker," she added indulgently. "She's worth it."

She was worth it. Forwards she came from the group, a picturesque, spare figure with snow-white hair crowned with a lace mantilla. Erect and proud, she stood facing the gathering. Instinctively one thought of those ladies of high degree of 120 years ago who had mounted the tumbril, head high and scornful, against the undercurrent of fear and hate of the rabble.

Odi profanum vulgum," muttered the youth again, but in a

different tone this time.

"Not she," responded the woman. "Listen."

There was a moment's pause in which the speaker's keen blue eyes sensed her audience. It was an audience composed the eyes sensed her audience, whom she was a familiar and chiefly of men—working men to whom she was a familiar and loved figure, clerks, stray City men, stray foreigners, used to the more emotional life of the Continent and wondering vaguely at this unaccustomed aspect of the English people.

She spoke of the insult to women in the framing of the D.

at this unaccustomed aspect of the English people.

She spoke of the insult to women in the framing of the Reform Bill, the deliberate insult in their exclusion. She noted the growing bitterness of women all over the country, the bitterness which foreshadowed a sex war, a calamity she had striven to avert with all the force of her being, from platforms all over Great Britain. "I have worked with men all my life," she said, bending forwards towards them, her face lit up with a spirituality that sent its magnetism to the outer edge of the crowd. that sent its magnetism to the outer edge of the crowd,—
brilliant men, eager men, soldiers. You know I have. I
love them. I'm an old woman and I can say these things.
But if the Labour Party leave us in darkness this time, I will
abandon them. No movement can hold me that does not

The rain which had been threatening all the afternoon came The rain which had been threatening all the afternoon came down in torrents. But the people only moved closer together. Umbrellas went up, coat-collars were raised, policemen grew restive. But, heedless of the pitiless downpour that beat upon her unprotected head, the speaker went on, carrying her flag of freedom, sending her message of liberty. "We live for the Cause—we are prepared to die for it," she concluded Whole-hearted bravos and applause came from the serried crowd. She had carried conviction. The military yet gracious figure on the stone platform had wen its way by sheer force of spirituality and personality.

A. M.

JOHN HAMPDEN STATUE AT AYLESBURY.

The statue of John Hampden, presented to the county of Buckinghamshire by Mr. James Griffiths, of Long Marston, in commemoration of the Coronation, was unveiled at Aylesbury on June 27 by Lord Rothschild. There was a large gathering, representative of Buckinghamshire generally. After some difficulty the Women's Tax Resistance League received the assurance that they would be able to pay their tribute to the reat Tax Resister

close of the unveiling ceremony a procession of members At the close of the unveiling ceremony a procession of members of the League crossed the market square to the statue, the crowd readily making way, while police lined the short route. On behalf of the League, two delegates, Miss Gertrude Eaton and Miss Clemence Housman, laid a beautiful wreath at the foot of the statue. It was made of white flowers, on which, in black letters, were the words, "From Women Tax Resisters." Within the circle of flowers was a ship in full sail with the name of John Hampden in gold letters on the streamers. The ship was made of brown beech leaves (the beech is the tree most famous in Buckinghamshire) and white flowers. Emblems were also made of brown beech leaves (the beech is the tree most famous in Buckinghamshire) and white flowers. Emblems were also laid at the base of the statue from the Irishwomen's Franchise League (a harp in Maréchal Niel roses), the Gymnastic Teachers' S.S. (blue immortelles and silver leaves), and the London Graduates Union (a laurel wreath). Among those present were Mrs. Sadd Brown, Mrs. Sergeant Florence, Dr. Kate Haslam, Mrs. Ayres Purdie, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Miss Turner, M.A., Miss Roll, Mr. Lee and Mr. Sergeant.

Tax Resistance: The Situation at Bromley.

"My goods are not yet seized for non-payment of taxes. I am still barricaded. Outside the gate

"Outside the gate!

"A most uncomfortable position for the tax collector! But, while offering sympathy, I feel the experience will be beneficial. There is nothing so enlightening as a little "fellow-feeling." Nothing like going "there" to learn the discomforts of being where the woman is, and should be, according to the gospel of the man at Westminster. Bolts and bars are never pleasant things to deal with—from outside! They are terribly, cruelly hand to research them from the state of the stat things to deal with—from outside! They are terribly, ctuarly hard to remove when fixed by men driven by fear to protect an unjust wall of separation. But walls must yield to pressure, and the women gather, intent on "breaking down"; content, if need be, to "be broken." While men, relying on their fastenings, ignore the trembling of foundations, women know the wall is doomed, and when it falls they will flock in to do the

THE VOTE.

bidding of the "Anti" to scrub and clean, to mind the bables, to stay in the home—the National Home." K. HARVEY. Meetings in the Market-square, Bromley.

Meetings in the Market-square, Bromley.

Meetings are now being held every evening in the Market-square, Bromley, and are exciting wide interest. Mrs. Despard was the speaker at the first, and told the crowd why Mrs. Harvey was making this emphatic protest against taxation without representation. Mrs. Despard's own experiences aroused much interest. The following evening Mrs. Tippett spoke, and still larger crowds gathered to hear her. By Saturday news of these regular meetings had spread, and the audience was ready to receive the speakers. The "Antis" are showing themselves—a sure sign of our success—but the chief argument they bring forward, in the form of questions, is that of physical force: because women do not fight they should not vote. Mrs. Merivale Mayer, the speaker on Saturday, was able to show how beneficial the women's vote had proved in Australia, and told of the surprise of Australian politicians that the Mother Country still refuses to give the women the chance to stand side by side with men in the fight against evil. The police are exceedingly kind—and evidently interested.

More Tax Resisters.

More Tax Resisters.

On June 28, at Reading, goods belonging to Professor Edith Morley were sold. Speakers: Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Miss Gertrude Eaton. Also goods belonging to Miss Manuelle, at Harding's Auction Rooms, Victoria Station, W. Speakers: Mrs. Louis Fagan, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Dr. Drysdale; and at Woking, silver, the property of Mrs. Skipwith, was sold. Speakers: Mrs. Ayrton Gould, Mrs. Kineton Parkes. On Saturday, June 29, at Southood, silver helonging to Mrs. Douglas Hamston and 29, at Southend, silver belonging to Mrs. Douglas Hameton and Mrs. Sky was sold. There was a procession with brass bane prior to sale, and also a very successful protest meeting. Speakers: Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Mr. Warren.

WEDNESDAY "AT HOMES"-CAXTON HALL.

WEDNESDAY "AT HOMES"—CAXTON HALL.

The dominant feature of the "At Home" on June 26 was the warm welcome given to Mrs. Despard on her return from Switzerland. Her able and inspiring address in response to the demonstration was heard with deep attention. She dealt with the political situation and the outlook, making special reference to her experiences in the Lobby of the House of Commons, and Mr. Lansbury's great protest. She recalled the action of Mr. Plimsoll, which scandalised the House but saved the lives of thousands of seafarers. She impressed upon her hearers that it was the little band of determined people who did things; twelve men founded the Christian Church; about twelve men declared that slavery should die. Every suffragist must feel that the responsibility for success lay upon her. Mrs. Merivale Mayer showed how the women's vote in Australia and New Zealand had purified polities and forced out of public life those men whose record did not bear inspection. Miss Underwood sketched the plan of the open air campaign to be carried on during the summer months in London, and received good response to her appeal for workers.

IN MEMORY OF W. T. STEAD.

The gathering at the Queen's Hall on June 26 in honour of the life and work of W. T. Stead, organised by the International Suffrage Shop, showed the world-wide appreciation of a man who thought only of the causes for which he strove. An unexwho thought only of the causes for which he strove. An unexpected but eloquent testimony to his influence came from Mr. Lloyd, holding political office in Australia, to which was added the speaker's amazement that the so-called democratic Government of the Old Country left out of count one half of the democracy, which had used the vote to such good purpose in the colonies. Mr. Harry Snell said that Mr. Stead was not in politics but in morals; Miss Lind af Hageby spoke of his radiant personality; Lady Stout told how New Zealand has established legally a minimum wage for women and licensed registry offices and employment bureaux. A great ovation was given to Mr. Lansbury, who insisted on Mr. Stead's recognition of the sacredness of womanhood; Mr. Herbert Stead declared that his brother was never more alive than to-day. Miss Estelle Stead recited most impressively J. R. Lowell's poem, "A Parable." The resolutions of affectionate honour to Mr. Stead's memory and support of the White Slave Traffic Bill now before Parliament were passed unanimously. Dr. R. F. Horton presided, and other speakers were Dr. Saleeby, Mr. Josiah Wedgwood, M.P., and Mr. Noel Buxton, M.P.

WOMEN VOTERS.

WOMEN VOTERS.

The first annual report of the Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association (London) is to hand, and shows a record of useful work done. Most interesting is the incident of the vigorous protest made by the A.N.Z.W.V.A. on March 13 against the action of the Secretary of State for the Colonies (Mr. L. Harcourt) in making a speech at the Albert Hall on February 28 against the principle of woman's enfranchisement. One of the chief objects of the Association's activities at present is a vigorous campaign against the White Slave Traffic. We note in the copy of rules submitted that No. 3 membership has been widened so that it, now stands: "The Association shall consist of women who have lived in or are connected with Australia or New Zealand, and who pay a minimum subscription of one shilling," &c. We are interested to learn that Mrs. Merivale Mayer has been elected to the Executive Committee.

ALL THE WORLD OVER.

Burma to the Fore.

Burma to the Fore.

According to Mrs. Chapman Catt, President of the International Woman Suffrage Association, who is making a world tour in the interest of the movement, the women of Burma are the oldest "freewomen" in the world. Since time immemorial, Burmese women have been reckoned men's equals. They control their own property, retain their own names after marriage, and continue earning their livelihood independently of their husbands. They enter prominently into the industrial life of the State, half of the recorded business transactions having women as principals. She observes: "It was a most curious women as principals. She observes: "It was a most curious experience to discover that the women of Rangoon, the metropolis of Burma, have had a municipal vote for thirty years. Parsi, or Burma, have had a municipal vote to thinky year. Take, Hindoo, Mohammedan, Chinese and Buddhist women are on the electors' rolls, and actually vote. The leader of the women is an ardent and orthodox Buddhist who gives her whole life and fortune to social work and has voted for a quarter of a century. Now, what do you think of that, you poor, dis-

Does the Vote "Destroy the Home"?

A contingent of the Young Australian League from Perth, Western Australia, visited America about the time of the election in California. The inhabitants of Perth believe that those forty boys turned the scale in favour of Woman Suffrage, for the Californian women were heard to declare that if the mothers of Australia, who have the vote, can send out such strong, healthy boys, the women's franchise has not done much harm!—"The West Australian."

A School for "Antis."

Mrs. Martin Flynn, the President of the Iowa anti-suffragists, mrs. Martin Flyin, the Freshelt of the low anti-santiages, recently made a visit to California. She was so much struck by what she saw there of the enfranchised women's work that, on her return home, she resigned her office in the anti-organisation. American Suffragists are now advising fall anti-suffragists to make a trip to California, where "seeing is believing, and believing means conversion."

Physical Force.

Physical Force.

A recent traveller in Portugal, who has been in that country studying the economic conditions of the people, states that quite two-thirds of the work in Portugal is done by women. In the cultivation of the vines and olives—the most important industries of the country—women do the hard labour under men overseers, the latter sitting in the shade of the olive trees while the former toil in the fields. Women also work in the quarries, and are engaged rowing the heavily laden barges on the rivers. In fact, wherever the work is the hardest, women are found performing it at a very meagre wage.—Standard.

LITTLE CLARENCE: "Pana, the Forty Thieves—"

LITTLE CLARENCE: "Papa, the Forty Thieves—"
MR. CALLIPERS: "Now, my son, you are too young to talk

K. HARVEY, Hon. Head Press Department, W.F.L.

POSTER CAMPAIGN.

Particulars of latest Posters printed and published at the Suffrage Atelier, Stanlake Villas, Shepherd's

The Atelier has just issued several new posters which are on view at the Minerva Publishing Company's offices, Robert-street, Adelphi. Organisers and others interested in this form of propaganda should call and inspect them. "The Prehistoric Argument," and "Old Dame in a Huff" will be found very suitable as answers to "Antis." "What May Happen" (the Servants' Tax) is particularly appropriate to the political situation just at present. "Political Conjuring (More Votes for Men)" will be ready in a day or two, and orders should be placed now. Income Tax resisters will find "Twentieth Century Robbery," "No Vote No Tax," and "The Paid Piper," especially applicable to their case. The two former can be obtained either coloured for uncoloured, "The Paid Piper," uncoloured only, or can be mounted on coloured paper. The contents bills, "The Reform and the Heralds" are suitable for posting notices. The former can be obtained in the colours of any Society by giving a few hours' notice, while the latter can be printed or mounted on coloured paper. Postcards in great variety are in stock, the latest being "The Wren" and "The Appeal." "Political Conjuring (More Votes for Men)" can also be obtained and should sell well. A further price list containing fuller details will be issued shortly. The Atelier has just issued several new posters which are on

WITH THE CARAVAN.

The Caravan wended its way from Letchworth to Royston y roads of which one side is in Cambridgeshire and the other by roads of which one side is in Cambridgeshire and the other in Essex. Miss Lee journeyed with us, and we parted with her hoping that Letchworth will soon figure in our list of Branches. We were joined by Mrs. Clark and Miss Preston, who have proved a very valuable addition to our small camping community. Royston had heard little or nothing of the suffrage, and a few chalked advertisements were enough to bring us; a large audience on the green. A rival meeting of the National Service League attracted much less attention. We were grateful for the kind services of Mr. Chapman, a sympathiser, and secretary of the local LLP, who rescued us from the attention secretary of the local I.L.P., who rescued us from the attention

of some rowdy youths and helped us in many ways. Royston has its quota of history. James I. had a palace there which he frequently visited during the hunting season, and there also was the country house of Lord Mounteagle, where he was staying when he received the celebrated letter which was the means of frustrating the Gunpowder Plot. On our second night of camping we were joined by two gipsy vans, and we quite envied the quick way in which they lighted a camp fire and cooked their evening meal. From Royston to Linton was a long distance—about sixteen miles—but there were no villages of sufficient inabout sixteen miles—but there were no villages of sufficient importance at which to break the journey. Here we found a camping-ground very prettily situated, and we pitched our tent in preparation for work in that district. Mrs. Clark and Miss Anson have greatly helped with the speaking and Miss Preston has made her debut as chairman.

Our next stages are Haverhill, Halstead, Colchester, Manningtree and Inswich, and we shall be glad of help from express these three are also with the stages are Haverhill.

tree and Ipswich, and we shall be glad of help from sympathisers living near and in these towns.

CONSTANCE E. ANDREWS.

FREEDOM LEAGUE FAIRS IN WALES.

The great event of the season in the Montgomery Boroughs will be the Women's Freedom League Fairs, to be held on will be the Women's Freedom League Fairs, to be held on Tuesday, July 16, at Llanfyllin and on Thursday, July 18, at Newton. The moving spirit'in this important and responsible enterprise is Miss Alix. Minnie Clark, the indefatigable hon, sec. of the Montgomery Boroughs Branch and successful Vote seller. Attractions innumerable are promised, and Suffragists in the Boroughs will not fail to support the Fairs by bringing both converted and unconverted friends to catch some of the enthusiasm which our great Cause inspires. On July 16 the Fair will be at Bodfach, by kind permission of T. Lomax, Esq. It will be opened at 2.30 p.m. by Mrs. Busch-Michell, of Crosswood, Welshpool. There will be stalls of many kinds, concerts, competitions, and dancing. Miss Ina Oxenford, of London, the well-known palmist, will give her lecture, "A Show of Hands," and Miss Nina Boyle will speak on the political situation. A similar programme will be carried out on July 18, when the Fair will be held at The Cunnings, Newton, by kind permission of R. W. Arbuthnot-Briscoe, Esq., and opened at 2.30 p.m. by Mrs. Scott, Pennant Hall, Abermule. Miss Clark will be grateful for any help towards the stalls and other expenses.

LONDON TEACHERS' SUFFRAGE MEETING.

The Memorial Hall, Farringdon street, was crowded on Wednesday, June 26, to hear a discussion on the following resolution: "That this meeting of London Teachers desires

resolution: "That this meeting of London Teachers desires to record its conviction that it is in the best interests of education that women teachers be granted the Parliamentary franchise. Miss A. K. Williams, President of the Association, was in the chair. Miss N. Lightman and Miss Dawson wished to put the case for the women teachers, but owing to the presence of a number of members of the Association who refused to give them fair play their difficulty was great. The women and their teachers. number of members of the Association who refused to give them fair play, their difficulty was great. The women and their supporters met with no arguments from their opponents, only the cry of "No politics." Mr. Nicholls, Past President of both the L.T.A. and the N.U.T., disposed of this dictum in a few well chosen words, and urged the opposition to let reason conquer prejudice. The amendment to the resolution, urging the inexpediency of discussing Parliamentary franchise for women, was lost. A division was claimed, and then those who had claimed it put disorder in the way. The women teachers are now in a strong position, and those who are in the forefront of the struggle will need the help of every supporter. A meeting of women members need the help of every supporter. A meeting of women members of the London Teachers' Association will be held at Essex Hall, Strand, on July 8. at 7 p.m.

IRISH NEWS.

The Irishwomer's Suffrage Federation wrote to Mr. Asquith, on behalf of Suffrage Societies in Dublin, Belfast, Cork, Waterford, Newry, Warrenpoint, Lisburn, Birr, Armagh, Queenstown, Mitchelstown and Skibbereen, to ask for an opportunity, during his visit to Dublin, to present a petition, signed by a large number of men and women throughout Ireland, claiming that "the Parliamentary vote be granted to Irish women, on the same terms as to Irish men, under the present or any future form of Government." The Prime Minister has replied that, owing to the shortness of his visit to Ireland, he will be

that, owing to the shortness of his visit to Ireland, he will be unable to receive in person a petition from the Irish Women's Suffrage Federation, but says that if it is forwarded to him by the post with any remarks in writing that the Federation likes to make, he will give it his careful consideration.

The Hon. Assistant Secretary writes to say that the above, not "under the Home Rule Bill," as given in our issue of June 22, is the correct wording of the petition, for which signatures are being collected in various parts of Ireland. Forms are to be had at 29, South Anne-street, Dublin. Will Irish Suffragists scall for write for them immediately?

Mrs. Spring Rice, Mrs. Cope, of the Armagh Suffrage Society, and Mrs. Duncan, of the Irishwomen's Reform League, Dublin, are doing good work at Westminster in "lobbying" amongst the Irish Members,

EXCEPTIONAL GLOVE VALUE

We are offering this week a Real Bargain in Lisle Thread Gloves, which are, without a doubt, the Finest Value we have offered.

These are made from the finest Super Lisle, have twist points, and finished with two pearl buttons. :: In every conceivable colour. ::

Per 71d. pair.

Money refunded if not approved.

F. MEDHURST, Ltd., BROMLEY, KENT.

5 and 6 PATERNOSTER ROW (adjoining St. Paul's Churchyard.)



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Special Attention Country Orders.

Costumes made to Measure at 42/- in large range of Serges, Tweeds, and Cheviots, lined and Men-Tailored throughout.

SUMMER SALE NOW PROCEEDING

A FEW SPECIAL :: BARGAINS. ::

1,000 yards Lace and Lawn Allovers and Edgings suitable for Blouses and Gowns, 3/11 yard, usual price 5/11

5,000 yards Ivory and Paris Net Lace Edgings and Insertions 64d. to 3/11 per yard, usual price 1/9 to 10/11 yard - - - -

30 pieces double width Ivory Fancy Nets, suitable for yoke, sleeves, &c., $1/0\frac{3}{4}$ per yard, usual price $1/6\frac{1}{2}$ to 3/11 per yard.

Hundreds of lengths of Black and Coloured French Veiling 11 vards for 6d., many worth 1/- and 1/6 per yard - - - - -

Black and coloured Crystalline Motor Veils 1/- each, usual

Oddments in Lawn Blouses, many trimmed Val Lace and tucked fronts 2/11, usual price 3/11 to 4/11.

Coloured Crepe de Chine, Ninon and Lace Blouses, 8/11 each, usual prices varying from 12/11 to 21/9.

WILLIAM OWEN, Ltd., WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON, W.

BRANCH NOTES.

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

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly ON ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, The Vote Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.? A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked All reports must reach the office on or before the first post

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Anerley and Crystal Palace
District.—Hon. Secretary: Miss J. Fennings, 149, Croydon-road
Our heartiest thanks are due to the Norwood District Suffrage.
Society, who so kindly invited us to have a stall, free of charge, at their
Fair at the Suffrage Offices, Anerley-road, last Friday and Saturday.
The result makes a good addition to our £1,000 Fund. Our meeting
at Penge last Friday was an extra long one, owing to the great interest
of the crowd in the able speeches of Mrs. Legge and Miss Ethel Fennings.
The Vote sold well, and a collection was taken. Members may be
glad to hear the £1,000 Fund does not close till July 30; any suggestions for raising money towards it will be welcomed. The Vote was
well in evidence last week at the Handel Festival.

well m evidence last week at the Handel Festival.

Croydon.—Office: 32a, The Arcade, High-street. Hon. Secretary:
Mrs. Terry, 9, Morland-avenue.

At an open-air meeting on June 27, Mrs. Merivale Mayer gave a most convincing address. Speaking from an Australian's point of view and experience, her words were very effective and evoked expressions of pleasure and satisfaction from the crowd. The Vote was sold out. It rests with each member personally to make our garden fête on July 6 a great success. Please take note that many local tradesmen are advertising in The Vote, and it is hoped that members will do their best to support the advertisers, and when purchasing to mention The Vote and the Women's Freedom League.

Hampetaga — Hon. Sec. Was Spiller, 63 South-hill park

the Women's Freedom League.

Hampstead.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Spiller, 63, South-hill.park.

Our friends will be glad to hear that Mr. Holiday has kindly lent us his house, studio, and grounds at Oak Tree House, Branch-hill, Hampstead, for Saturday, July 13, from 3-7 p.m., when we intend to have a Bohemian Fete in aid of the Birthday Present Fund. There will be "The Musical" in the garden, under the direction of Madame Edith von Elischer; a play, Aspirations of Archibald, in the studio; recitations, palmistry, sweets, and flower stall. Tickets is, only, including tea and concert. Will members promise a cake each, and their services for the day? Fifty such promises would be most welcome. May I add that we have a good beginning towards the fifty? There will also be an exhibition of stained glass windows, to which Mr. Holiday has generously invited us all. Please write at once to Mrs. Spiller.

Herne Hill and Norwood.-Hon. Sec.: Miss B. Spencer, 32,

Geneva-road, Brixton, S.W.

On Sunday morning, June 30, a very successful meeting was held in Brockwell Park, when Mrs. Tanner was the speaker. A large and interested audience listened attentively while Mrs. Tanner explained how the possession of the Parliamentary vote will assist women to obtain a better economic position, and will also enable them to bring about social and industrial reforms that will not only benefit themselves but the whole community. A number of questions were asked, to which Mrs. Tanner replied most ably and readily. The next meeting will be held on Sunday morning, July 7, when Mrs. Bigger will speak. Mid-London. - Hon. Secretary: Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-

avenue, Ealing.

The usual Sunday morning meeting in Hyde Park was a great success. Miss Busby, the chairman, touched on the Insurance Act, with reference to women Mrs. Nevinson, who was the speaker, enlarged in an amusing way on the same subject, and afterwards roused much feeling by her account of women compelled to enter or leave the workhouse at the command of their husbands. Mrs. Hyde, who is worknows at the command of their indistance. Mrs. Hy organising these meetings during July, is most anxious to Vote sold outside the Park from 12 to 1.30 p.m. Will som

Volunteer?

Stamford Hill.—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Thomson, 7, East Bank. A very successful and most enjoyable garden meeting was held on Thursday evening last at 11, Rookwood-road, and we were most hospitably entertained by Mrs. Cashmore, to whom (with her husband and daughter) our best thanks are due. A pleasant party assembled at 8 o'clock to hear Mrs. Tanner's excellent and practical speech, and the evening was happily diversified with songs kindly contributed by friends of the family and Miss Cashmore. An appeal from the chair on behalf of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund was generously responded to, and Mrs. Mustard, in a few well-chosen words, pointed out the advantages of joining our Society. Mr. Goodwin kindly proposed a vote of thanks, and the evening was altogether most enjoyable. The open-air meeting was held on Friday evening at the corner of Amhurst Park, at which Mrs. Merivale Mayer was the speaker. In the absence of the expected chairman, Mrs. Goodwin kindly came to the rescue. Mrs. Mayer then held a large and not very sympathetic crowd while she ably stated her case. Even grumblers were too much interested to depart. Votes were sold and a collection taken. We trust soon to have another visit from so able a speaker. A fruit tea takes place at 7, East Bank on Tuesday, July 9, at 3.30 p.m., at which a lecturer from the Lady Margaret Hospital, Bromley, will explain the curative power of fruitarian diet in dealing with disease. All are cordially invited. Tickets 6d. each.

PROVINCES.—Aintree.—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. Shaw, 15, Chats-

PROVINCES .- Aintree .- Hon. Secretary : Mrs. Shaw, 15, Chats-

Thanks are due to all members who contributed to the cake and candy sale, the success of which was very encouraging. The secretary is much indebted to Mrs. Ackesley, Mrs. Evans, Mrs. Halton, and Mrs. McNaul, for their help in carrying out the arrangements.

Brighton and Hove. —Hon. Sec.: Miss Hare, 8, San Remo, Hove. There will be an open-air meeting on Thursday, July 11 on the beach at 7 p.m., when Mrs. Merivale Mayer will speak. Mrs. Despard

has kindly promised to speak to working women on July 15. Further particulars of this meeting will be given later.

Manchester District.—Hon. Organiser: Mrs. Dean. Hon. Sec.: Miss A. E. Hordern, 47A, Market-street.

The District Committee met on Thursday to consider plans for a visit from Miss Boyle, who will, we hope, be with us for a week's open-air eampaign from July 8. As the date was not quite certain, the Committee decided to leave the final arrangements in the hands of the Hon. Organiser and the secretaries of the four Branches. Mrs. Despard is to be with us from August 30 to September 2, which will give us a good send-off after the holidays. It is proposed to hold a teachers' meeting at the office on Friday, August 30; the Burnage Branch are arranging a meeting for the 31st. On Monday, September 1, the Stockport Labour Church is giving us the use of their room; and Manchester Central Branch will have the organisation of a big meeting. This district was worked previously with but little result, and considerable work will be needed to do justice to our President. Manchester members, please note. Tuesday, the 2nd, will be given to the Eccles Branch, who will arrange another of their successful meetings. It was decided to close the office for a month from July 19th, owing to the absence of so many of our members. The secretary was instructed to confer with Miss Geiler with regard to the arranging of a "workstall" for the office when re-opened. Gifts of work or other articles for sale will be gratefully received, and should be sent to Miss Hordern at the Office.

Manchester (Burnage).—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. G. Brickhille, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme.

work or other articles for sale will be gratefully received, and should be sent to Miss Hordern at the Office.

M. J. Neal.

Manchester (Burnage).—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. G. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme.

The Burnage members had the great pleasure on Monday evening, June 24, of receiving Miss Janet Heyes, always a welcome visitor, who addressed a crowded drawing-room meeting at 7. Burnage-lane. The result of her visit speaks for itself; there were five new members enrolled. The next meeting was fixed for Monday, July 1, and on Thursday, July 4, we hope to hold an open-air meeting in Levenshulme.

Portsmouth and Gosport.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. Whetton, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea.

Shire-avenue, Southsea.

A good crowd collected on the Common on Wednesday evening to hear Councillor Pile, champion the cause of "Votes for Women." In the unavoidable absence of Miss Manners, the chair was taken by Miss Hattrill, who kept the meeting well in hand in spite of a great deal of opposition. The speaker on Wednesday, July 10, will be Mrs. Whetton. Chair, Miss Hattrill.

Whetton. Chair, Miss Hattrill.

WALES.—Swansea.—Org. Sec.: Mrs. Sproson, May Hill, Garden City. Corres. Sec.: Mrss M. V. Hutton, 9, Sketty-road, Uplands. Will all members remember that Mrs. Sproson is coming to hold a campaign in Swansea from July 6 to 20, and we shall be glad if as many as possible will turn up at all open-air meetings to help sell literature, &c. Please also remember the Jumble Sale to be held in

SCOTLAND.—Edinburgh.—33, Forrest-road; Hon. Secretary:
Miss A. B. Jack, 21, Buccleuch-place. Hon. Treas.: Miss M. A.
Wood, 67, Great King-street. Hon. Shop Sec.: Mrs. Thomson,

Wood, 67, Great King-street. Hon. Shop Sec.: Mrs. Thomson, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.
On June 20 the Misses Brown very kindly arranged a drawing-room meeting at their house, and speeches were given by Miss Sara Munro and Miss Anna Mundó. Several of those present had not previously heard a Suffrage speech, and much interest was expressed. Two dinner-hour meetings have been held in Causewayside, where Miss Anna Munro had a very attentive audience of working girls. Arrangements are now in hand for a Joint Demonstration on July 9 at 8 p.m. in support of the amendment to the Reform Bill. The National Union of Suffrage Societies, the I.L.P., and the Federation of Women Workers are to take part, and we hope for the co-operation of many other societies. Final details will be announced as soon as possible. Meanwhile the cookery demonstrations are being continued with great success. Mrs. Jackson has by special request repeated her special exhibition of bread-baking, in which she is arousing great interest, and has promised to take yet another demonstration. A lecture on the care of the sick, followed by an exhibition of sick-room cookery, are also promised for future dates. Remember the Garden

interest, and has promised to take yet another demonstration. A lecture on the care of the sick, followed by an exhibition of sick-room cookery, are also promised for future dates. Remember the Garden Party on Saturday, and bring friends. The Highland picture, with "waulking" and other songs, dances and stories, will be of special interest, and Miss May Grant is to give a violin solo. Tickets, Is. each. H. McLACHLAN, Assistant Secretary.

Dundee.—Hon. Sec.: Miss Helen Wilkie, 280, Perth-road. The first of our open-air meetings was held last Monday when Miss McLaehlan, of Edinburgh, addressed a large and attentive crowd at the High School Gate. On Saturday, July 13, there will be a great demonstration in Albert-square at 7 p.m. In addition to the W.F.L. the following Societies will take part: the N.U.W.S.S., the Liberal Women, the Women's Co-operative Guild, the Women's Labour League, and various men's Societies. In order to advertise this meeting we have agreed to take part in Hospital Saturday procession to-morrow by hiring a wagonette and decorating it in the colours. As many of our members are on holiday in July, those still in town are urged to do all in their power to make the W.F.L. section a great success on the 13th.

L.Clunas.

The News of an unusual law partnership comes from New Zealand, where Miss Nancy Isaacs has recently been appointed legal associate to her father, Justice Isaacs, in the High Court of the Commonwealth.

"THE KEYSTONE OF HEALTH."

Ir is undoubtedly a fact that the mineral water treatment of

It is undoubtedly a fact that the mineral water treatment of rheumatism, gout, gouty eczema, gravel and other uric acid troubles, is most efficacious.

You should therefore try "Vitaregis Aperient Water," which contains "Sulphur" in the most palatable form yet discovered, and is endorsed by the medical profession.

It is used in the leading Hydros and has the decided advantage of being quite odourless, as well as palatable, and is also a mild and effective Aregient.

and effective Aperient.

Half a tumblerful taken before breakfast, once or twice a week, will make you fit, and keep you well.

Excellent for the Complexion. An ideal Aperient.

Of all Chemists, price 1s. 3d. per large bottle.—[ADVT.]

THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC.

The main provisions of the Bill have been summarised as

clause I.—To give power to the Police to arrest "procurers" caught in the act, without the delay of obtaining a warrant (as they can arrest a pickpocket). Clause II.—To strengthen the law dealing with keepers of brothels. Clause III.—To provide that if a house is used as a brothel, the tenancy may be terminated by the landlord, and that if he does not terminate the tenancy, by the landlord, and that if he does not terminate the tenancy, he shall be held liable for any future similar use of the house. Clause IV. (a) To amend a paragraph in the Vagrancy Act, 1898, which deals with solicitation by male persons for immoral purposes, by making it clear that it includes soliciting persons of either sex. Clause IV. (b) To extend the definition of cases in which a man may be presumed to be living on the

earnings of immorality.

A memorial urgently petitioning, on behalf of the Young-Women's Christian Association, that the Bill be adopted as a Government measure was sent to Mr. Asquith, Mr. Bonar Law, Mr. Balfour, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. McKenna, and Mr. Ramsay MacDonald. It was signed by Lady Proctor (president). Ramsay MacDonald. It was signed by Lady Proctor (president), the Hon. Emily Kinnaird (vice-president), and others, and urged the addition of the following clauses:—(a) To raise the age of consent to eighteen; (b) to abolish the clause in the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1885 which enables the guilty party to evade punishment, should he be able to show that he had "reasonable cause" to suppose the girl to be over the age of consent.

THE PASS THE BILL COMMITTEE.

A public meeting for women only, arranged by the "Pass the Bill" Committee, in support of the Criminal Law Amendment (White Slave Traffic) Bill, will be held at the Kensington Town Hall on July 10 at 8.15 p.m. Adeline, Duchess of Bedford, has kindly consented to take the chair, and Mrs. Philip Snowden with other representative and influential women, will speak on the subject of the Bill.

INSTEAD OF RULE 243a.

According to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's letter to The Times, Rule 243a has now been swept away, but certain concessions granted in that rule remain; the principal modifications are the following:—

"1. The prisoner is not entitled now to provide his or her own food, but is restricted to a weekly pareel weighing not more than 11lb., including package. This restriction is a serious hardship, especially to vegetarians.

"2. Whereas by Rule 243a prisoners were exempted from prison labour, they are now obliged to perform their task. If they refuse to do so they not only lose their marks for remission, but they lose all right to receive any letter or any visit. One of the younger prisoners, in addition to her prolonged sentence. of the younger prisoners, in addition to her prolonged sentence, has not been allowed to receive a visit or letter from her mother or from anyone else, and another has been refused permission to write to her own little girl, whose sole surviving parent

she is.
"3. A prisoner is allowed only a visit of 15 minutes' "3. A prisoner is allowed only a visit of 15 minutes' duration once a month on condition that she conforms to all the prison rules. What concessions remain are not embodied in any printed rule and are subject to change or withdrawal according to the mood of the Home Secretary."



We register WE make a feature of combining comfort and elegance in

SHAPELY SHOES for SUFFRAGETTES.

Our footwear is splendidly made by highly-skilled workmen, combined with the best of materials.

Smart Walking Shoe in black glace, [3/9; patent, [5/9, post free, Once fitted, always



Write for Catalogue.

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

VUTES FOR WOMEN

Thurs., July 4.—Finsbury Park, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m.; Mrs. Mustard. Highbury Dorner, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.; Mrs. Fanner. Thornton Hearth Clock, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.; Mrs. Fanner. Thornton Hearth Clock, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.! Mr. Walter Hogg.

Fri., July 5.—The Trhangle, Penge, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m.; Mrs. Merivale Mayer. Corner Amhurst Park, Clapton Common, 8 p.m.; Miss Underwood.

Sat. July 6.—Brayerwafte Hall, Welles-

B p.m.; Miss Underwood.

Sat., July 6.— Braithwaite Hall, Wellesley-road, Croydon, Garden Fete, 6—11 p.m.

Sun., July 7.—Hyde Park, Open-air
Meeting, noon; Mrs. Despard. Chair: Mrs.
Hyde. Brockwell Park, Open-air Meeting,
victoria Park, Open-air Meeting, 3 p.m.
Fruitarian Lecture, 3.30 p.m.; tickets 6d. The Flagstaff, Hamptead. Open-air Meeting, 8.30 p.m.; Mrs. Mustard. Prince's Head,
Sun., July 10.—Corner Long Road, Clapham, 8 p.m.; Mrs.
Merivale Mayer.

Well, Suly 10.—Correct food Road, Caphain, 8 p.in.; Mrs. Merivale Mayer.

Thurs., July 11.—Finsbury Park, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Highbray Correa, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Thornton Heath Clock, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.; Mrs. Tanner.

Fri., July 12.—The Triangle, Penge, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Correct Park, Clapton Common, 8 p.m. W.F.L. Shop, The Arcade, High-street, Croydon, Special "At Home," 3.45 p.m. Exhibition of Posters by the Suffrage Atelier. Special Speakers.

Sat., July 13.—Oak Tree House, Branch Hill, Hampstead, Bohemian Fete, by kind permission of Mr. Henry Holiday, 3.—7 p.m. Sun., July 14.—Hyde Park, Open-air Meeting, noon; Mrs. Tanner. Joint Suffrage Demonstration, 3 p.m.; W.F.L. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Miss Nma Boyle, Mrs. Merivale Mayer. Chair: Miss Underwood.

Tues., July 16.—The Flagstaff, Hampstead, Open-air Meeting, 30 p.m.; Mrs. Thomson Price.
Thurs, July 18.—Thornton Heath Clock, Open-air Meeting, p.m.; Mrs. Bigger.

PROVINCES.

Thurs., July 4.—Halstead, W.F.L. Caravan Meeting, Miss ndrews, Mrs. Watson. Chair: Miss Preston, 8 p.m. Manchester.

Thurs., July 4.—Halstead. W.F.L. Caravan Merchester. Andrews, Mrs. Watson. Chair: Miss Preston, 8 p.m. Manchester. Levenshulme, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Fri., July 5.—Halstead. W.F.L. Caravan Meeting: Miss Andrews, Mrs. Watson. Chair: Miss Preston. 8 p.m. Mon., July 8.—Colchester. Miss Andrews, Mrs. Watson. 8 p.m. W. Hartlepool, Mrs. Smelv's, Grange-road, 7 p.m., Members' Meeting. Tues., July 9.—Colchester. Miss Andrews, Mrs. Watson. 8 p.m. Wed., July 10.—Colchester. Miss Andrews, Mrs. Watson. 8 p.m. Southsea, near Clarence Pier. Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Whetton. Chair: Miss Hattrill.

Thurs., July 11. Brighton. The Beach, Open-air Meeting. 3.30 p.m.; Mrs. Merivale Mayor, W. Hartlepcol. Church-square, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m.; Mrs. F. Garbutt and others. Chair: Mr. M. Atkinson.

wed., July 17.—Hartlepcol. The Moor. Open-air Meeting, 30 p.m. Mr. M. Atkinson and others. Chair: Rev. F. L. Ward, B.A. Thurs., July 18.—Brighton. Working Women's Meeting; Mrs.

Sat., July 6, to Sat., July 20.—Swansea. Summer Campaign. Open-air Meetings and Garden Parties. Speaker: Mrs. Sproson.

Tues., July 16.—Bodfach, Llanfyllin. Gold, Green and White

Thurs., July 18.—Newtown. Gold, Green and White Fair, 2.30 p.m.
Fri., July 19.—Kerry. Public Meeting. Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Clark.
Sat., July 20.—The Cross, Newtown. Open-Air Meeting.
Miss Boyle.

Miss Boyle.

Mon., July 22.—Caersws. Public Meeting. Miss Boyle.

Tues., July 23.—Leanbrynmar. Public Meeting. Miss Boyle.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh.

Sat., July 6.—33. Morningside-road, Garden Party, 3 p.m.

fen. Tableau, Country Dances. Speech by Miss Munro. Tickets is.

Tues., July 9.—Open-air Demonstration, 8 p.m.

Wed., July 10.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road, Sickroom Nursing Demonstration, 7 p.m.

Sat., July 13.—Dundee. Albert-square, Joint Demonstration of Men and Women's Societies, 7 p.m.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND WOMEN.

Dear Madam,—May I call your attention to the first paragraph in an article entitled "Women and the Church" in graph in an article entitled "Women and the Church" in your issue of June 8? It is much to be regretted that this hydra-headed fable about the Church Council at Macon, which is alleged to have disputed if women had souls, should reappear in your valuable paper. The whole myth is founded on a discussion at that Council as to whether the word Homo was to be understood as meaning men and women. A little reflection will show that it is obviously ridiculous that a Church which pays so much honour to the Blessed Virgin, which had already canonized so many women saints and martyrs, and included their names in their daily service, which had always taught the doctrine of the Soul in Purgatory, and made no difference in the burial service of men and women, could be arguing as late as the sixth century whether women even had souls.—Yours, late as the sixth century whether women even had souls.—Your E. Smyth-Piggott.

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HAMPSTEAD.—Mrs. SPILLER, 63, South-hill-park, Hampstead.
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