

THE VOTE,  
April 24, 1914.  
ONE PENNY.

130  
THE GOVERNMENT'S COSTLY "DAY OUT"



# THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. No. 235.

[Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.]

FRIDAY, APRIL 24, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE AT LOWESTOFT.

NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS' CONFERENCE.



A POSTER PARADE,

Including the Misses Alix M. Clark, Sims, John, Kemp, Mahony, Hayton, Neal, Munro, Eggett, Todd, Clarke.

KVINDELIG  
LISEFORENIN



CROWD LISTENING TO MISS ANNA MUNRO.

### CAR & GENERAL

INSURANCE CORPORATION LIMITED,



1, Queen Victoria St., London, E.C. 35 Branch Offices.

### 1914 "ECLECTIC" POLICY

RATES MUCH REDUCED.

Policy Simplified - Benefits Increased.

## OUR POINT OF VIEW.

### Mr. McKenna's Darlings.

While the Press and some members of the public are abusing Mr. McKenna for not instituting a more savage system of repression for Suffragists in prison; and while the Governor of Holloway is engaged in depriving prisoners "whose offences do not involve moral turpitude" of the relaxations obtained for them by desperate struggle and sacrifice; and while the Commissioner of Police is devising new indignities to heap on them; it comes upon us with some degree of shock that this should be considered the suitable moment for relaxing the conditions for real and hardened criminals. The "preventive detention" prisoners in the Isle of Wight—we imagine it would be difficult, among all the community, to select a more vicious, callous, brutal lot, whose crimes include some of the vilest and foulest known to man—are to have a pleasant system of bungalow verandahed dwellings provided for them at the public expense (to which, of course, Suffragists have forcibly to contribute) to enable them to smoke and loaf in ease and comfort. There are bed-sitting rooms with gas-rings and slow-combustion stoves, and garden allotments, for these criminals, while the bare cell and the asphalt yard are good enough for our women. We suggest that the standard of comfort so thoughtfully arranged for the burglar and the would-be murderer at Camp Hill, should be adopted by Suffragists as the irreducible minimum under Rule 243a, and that nothing less should be accepted.

### Arbitrary Dealings.

Following on the drastic regulations of the Mental Deficiency Act, which is now supposed to be in force, comes the new Criminal Justice Bill, which aims at extending, to a degree impossible yet to foresee, the arbitrary powers of magistrates in summary jurisdiction, of the Secretary of State, of police detention, and various other matters which will give officialdom a yet firmer grip on the public and the public's rights and liberties. The Bill will soon be in Committee, and it will then be possible to obtain a better idea of the attitude adopted by the representatives of the male people towards these rights and liberties. We have little hope that they will be respected, or that any more serious attention will be paid to them than in the farcical discussions on the Mental Deficiency and Insurance Acts. There are points specifically aimed at Suffragists, in accordance with the system which steadily whittles away the ground on which rebels may stand without giving any compensatory rights or grant of justice. We reserve criticism on these various points until the Committee stages of the Bill have passed, and we make serious note of the callous disregard for public and private rights that disgraces the Government of Mr. Asquith, the administration of Mr. McKenna, and the present House of Commons.

### "Ignorance the Potent Factor."

Suffragists who have been denounced by the Press and the ignorant for daring to drag to the light of day the appalling results of the double standard of morality and its danger to the nation, now find themselves in the company of doctors giving evidence before the Commission of inquiry, as witness the following report in *The Times*:-

At the twenty-fifth meeting of the Royal Commission on Venereal Diseases, Dr. J. Risien Russell, who was nominated to appear by the Royal College of Physicians, stated that he had come to the conclusion that syphilis is very often the cause of nervous diseases, and that without syphilis general paralysis of the insane and locomotor ataxy would not exist.

At the twenty-sixth meeting Dr. Douglas White said that he had arrived at the conclusion that there were every year 122,500 fresh cases of venereal disease in London, and 800,000 fresh cases in the United Kingdom. He computed that of the 800,000 fresh cases 114,000 would be syphilis and the remaining 686,000 cases gonorrhoea and chancroid. From these figures he deduced that there must be in the United Kingdom some 3,000,000 syphilis.

In the United Kingdom there are about 2,600 deaths annually from general paralysis and about 700 deaths from locomotor ataxy. If it may be assumed, Dr. White added, that 3 per cent.

of cases of syphilis result in deaths from these diseases, the conclusion is reached that there are about 111,000 syphilitic infections annually. This figure he compared with the 114,000 fresh infections estimated by indirect method.

Dr. White regarded the ignorance of the public as the most potent factor in the spread of the disease. He thought it was clear that the adolescents of both sexes should be instructed in sex hygiene. He suggested that at public and other schools lectures should be given by a selected medical man, and that at Universities similar lectures should be made compulsory. He urged the employment by Government of medical men and instructed laymen to lecture to employees at large factories—woman lecturers being employed for girls—the whole procedure to be under the control of some central body, receiving subvention from public funds.

### Miss Le Croisette.

All London members will be delighted to hear of the triumph of Miss Le Croisette at the election of delegates for the annual Congress of the *Association Générale des Agents de Postes, Télégraphes, et Téléphones* (France and Colonies) to be held at Lille during June. For the first time, at the Annual Conference of the Postal and Telegraph Clerks' Association, held in London during Easter week, a woman was nominated as a delegate, the men who usually compete for these honours apparently looking upon the nomination as a huge joke. Miss Le Croisette headed the poll, leaving the male aspirants behind; and the victory has so rejoiced the women members of the Association (which numbers some 20,000 of both sexes) that for the future they mean to run women's nominations for every Conference. The French delegate, in congratulating the successful competitor, told her what infinite encouragement her presence would give to the women clerks in the French service, who were not well organised. A correspondent, who sends us this interesting piece of news, also tells us that Miss Le Croisette put up a splendid fight for the "Equal pay, irrespective of sex" amendment which was on the programme of the Conference.

### A Woman Warrior.

Facts are stubborn things. To the Antis who declare that women cannot fight, and therefore they must not vote, we commend the story of a woman's defence of the Kazerun Barracks in Persia, which *The Times* published last Tuesday. Major Ohlson, the Swedish commander of the Persian *gendarmérie*, was killed, and his wife, unaware of his death, commanded the men during an attack by the enemy lasting six days and nights. From her stirring account of what took place we take the following extract:-

An 8-centimetre gun was in readiness to take up a position on a hill commanding the town; I was to await orders from my husband, and then proceed with it to the place assigned. . . . Not long after my husband's departure we heard some shots being fired, and suddenly we found ourselves surrounded and being attacked by the enemy. The suddenness of the attack led me to expect treachery. The Maxims were by my orders carried on to the roof of the barracks, and from there we opened a brisk fire on our assailants. . . . For six days and nights the fight continued almost incessantly, and I was during that time unable to disrobe and had to take what rest I could in the room occupied by the native officers. Many of the *gendarmes* were badly wounded. . . . I attended to them with the help of a native surgeon and provided them with food and saw to their comfort generally.

This wise and skilful woman-general kept up the courage of the soldiers till relief came. Being Swedish, she will soon have a vote.

### PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE W.F.L. CAMPAIGN AT THE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE, LOWESTOFT.  
OUR POINT OF VIEW.  
OUR PRESIDENT'S PROGRESS.  
AT HEADQUARTERS.  
THE TEACHERS' CONFERENCE: AN IMPRESSION. M. SIMS.  
WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE CAMPAIGN AT LOWESTOFT.  
HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF: "THOSE REBELLIOUS PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN."  
THE GOVERNMENT'S COSTLY "DAY OUT."  
WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION: BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.  
THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC. C. NINA BOYLE.  
"IT WAS A SUMMER EVENING." H. S.  
OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN  
THE "PROTECTED" SEX.  
THE AWAKENING OF WOMEN.  
WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON." Telephone—6146 CITY.  
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.  
President—Mrs. C. DESPARD. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.  
Hon. Organising Secretary—Miss EUNICE MURRAY.  
Hon. Head of International Department—Mrs. HARVEY, 4, Cleveland Gardens, Ealing, London, W.  
Hon. Head of Merchandise Department—Mrs. SNOW.  
Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.  
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.  
VOTE Street Sales Organiser—Miss P. LEAHY.

### OUR PRESIDENT'S PROGRESS.

It is with heartfelt gladness that we are able to report continued progress in Mrs. Despard's return to health. Constant care, bright sunshine, and her strong determination have brought about this welcome result. She is still very weak, and will require absolute rest for two months. We look forward to giving her a rousing welcome at her Birthday Party on July 7, and presenting her with £1,000.

### AT HEADQUARTERS.

**London Meetings.**—To-night (Friday) at Caxton Hall, at 7.30, we are holding a reception to the twelve ex-prisoners who were recently arrested in Whitehall for distributing leaflets in connection with the Wetherall case, and who were afterwards sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment. Speeches by ex-prisoners will begin at eight o'clock, and Miss Nina Boyle will be in the chair. Admission is free, but there will be a special collection for the work of the Political and Militant Department. Tickets for reserved seats at 1s. can be obtained from the W.F.L. Office.

Several of the prisoners, headed by Miss Boyle, who distributed leaflets about the protection of criminals, poster-paraded in Whitehall on April 17. On their boards were the words, "Just Served Fourteen Days for Doing This." No one was arrested.

Next Wednesday afternoon at Caxton Hall the speakers will be Miss Nina Boyle and the Rev. C. Baumgarten, who will deal with the subject, "Justice and the Franchise from the Church Point of View." The chair will be taken at 3.30 by Mrs. Hyde. The following Wednesday we shall have the pleasure of hearing Mr. George Lansbury on "The Religious Duty of Revolt." Wednesday, May 13, Mr. Laurence Housman will be the principal speaker, his subject being "In this Sign Conquer."

**Discussion Meeting.**—Monday evening, May 4, at 1, Robert-street, Miss Ashdown will open a discussion on Madame Curie.

**Miss Boyle's Scottish Tour.**—At the beginning of May Miss Boyle will go to Scotland for three weeks' tour, meetings—indoor and open-air—having been arranged for her at Cardross, Cowdenbeath, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Helensburgh, Rothesay, &c. We wish our Scottish members every success at their meetings during this campaign.

**Caravan Tour.**—After securing a magnificent success for the Women's Freedom League at Lowestoft during the N.U.T. Conference, Miss Anna Munro will begin her caravan tour from High Barnet along the Great North-road, Tuesday, May 5. All members and friends in and near London are invited to be present at the send-off meeting at High Barnet at 7.30 p.m., May 5. Miss Munro will be grateful for help of all descriptions for this tour. She is in need of speakers and sellers. Gifts of provisions will also be welcomed and donations towards the expenses of this campaign will relieve our honorary treasurer of such anxiety. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

N.B.—Will "Freedom," who writes an interesting letter for "Our Open Column," kindly send her name and address to the Editor? No letters are published without this necessary guarantee.

## NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS' CONFERENCE: AN IMPRESSION. A GAIN OF 5,000 VOTES FOR THE SUFFRAGE RESOLUTION.

The outstanding feature of the Conference was the earnestness of the women and their belief in themselves. This latter trait is surely a sign of progress. We women teachers know our Cause is right, our demand just. This is the reason why our comrades spoke so tellingly; it was no lip service; the words came from surcharged hearts, weary with waiting.

*The Standard*, commenting on the speaking at the Conference, said: "The women seem to have a perfect organisation, by means of which only the very best and most highly cultured of them ever speak." But we know their eyes have been opened to the great need for enfranchisement by their work: a little child has led them.

Determination and courage were shown throughout the Conference by the Suffragist members. I cannot speak too highly of the deep religious fervour of those women who, protesting against the inactivity of the Church, personally offered up prayers for their comrades who are fighting for Liberty. For the first time in English history, and before a large congregation and in the hearing of the Bishop of the Diocese, a woman offered up a public prayer from the steps of the altar for a woman and for the Cause of woman. The congregation was so staggered that the woman's prayer was distinctly heard; having offered it, she walked straight out of the church. Her sisters, however, were brutally treated; they were literally thrown from the church; several were seized by the throat and, in one case, a girl's spine was injured.

The protest made at the Nonconformist place of worship the same day was listened to in reverent silence, the presiding minister being an ex-President of the National Union of Teachers.

The Suffragist teachers were determined to show that Women's Suffrage was a question to be brought into the National Union of Teachers. It coloured almost every debate; it showed in the salary question, it popped up in the child labour discussion: it refused to be expelled.

The most important meetings held on Saturday were: 1. The magnificent public meeting of the Women Teachers' Franchise Union, when the following resolution was passed by an overwhelming majority:—

That this meeting of delegates of the National Union of Teachers and others desires to record its conviction that it is in the best interests of education that women be granted the Parliamentary Franchise.

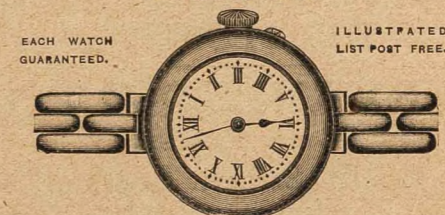
2. The Conference of women members of the National Federation of Women Teachers. The following resolutions were carried:—

(a) That in order to further the interests of women teachers this Conference supports their claim to the full rights of citizenship.

(b) That this Conference protests against the revival of forcible feeding and drugging, and calls upon the Government to take steps to remove the cause of the women's agitation.

A resolution declaring that the subject of the En-

BY APPOINTMENT.  
The  
**Goldsmiths & Silversmiths**  
Company Ltd.



18 carat Gold Keyless Lever Watch,  
Mounted on 15 carat Gold London-made  
Expanding Bracelet £10 0 0

ONLY ADDRESS 112, REGENT STREET, LONDON, W.

franchisement of Women was not a suitable *object* of the Federation could find no seconder.

On Monday a business meeting of the women members of Conference was held; and, like all the other women's meetings, was crowded. The Parliamentary Franchise resolution was again passed with only five dissentients out of about 400 women.

Wednesday morning was to see the decision of Conference on our Suffrage Resolution, and the special vigilance of the "ticket peeper" and the presence of extra and burly-looking stewards, together with a record house, showed that it was a "live" question.

Miss Cleghorn, M.A., ex-President of the National Union of Teachers, for the third time of asking, moved our resolution, against which she "saw no cause or impediment." She pointed out that in history an Education Bill always followed a Reform Bill. Was not educational legislation wanted now? She did not ask for Woman Suffrage to be an object of the Union, but she believed that the Enfranchisement of Women would help many of the objects the Union had in view. Mr. Harry Smith (Executive) seconded in a most brilliant speech, and ended by asking Conference what would happen if they bolted and barred the door to constitutional discussion. Were they not afraid of opening the flood gates of militancy within the Union? Women had come to Conference after Conference asking the same thing, and it would be a grave mistake if Conference took action to prevent the subject being discussed. Men and women must walk shoulder to shoulder if they are going to do good work in the Union, not in separate camps. Only thus could we realise the hopes of the past and the glorious future.

The amendment, moved by Mr. Cook and seconded by Miss Blacker, was:—

That this Conference is of opinion that the question of Women's Suffrage is outside the scope of the objects of the National Union of Teachers, and hereby instructs the Executive to refrain from supporting all motions bearing upon that subject.

The amendment was put and declared carried. A division was claimed. The result was:—

For the amendment	45,123
Against	28,674
	16,449

The next morning we moved the previous question. Miss Froude said: "If you do not go back and pass this vote of sympathy you will leave on your records a resolution against free speech—one which makes all women serfs. You say our request is not educational. Educate us!" The seconder said: "We do not want to come out of our Union, but at a sign from our leaders we shall do so."

A division was again claimed and we lost.

The Suffragist teachers are not discouraged. Five thousand votes are gained! That is something! But there comes a time when women cease to ask even their brothers for sympathy. There are other ways of showing that women teachers need the Vote. The message of the moment to all the women teachers who are in favour of Women's Enfranchisement is, "Get all the women in your own school on your side." We shall need the help of all our sisters before another Conference comes round.

MARY SIMS.

**THE FLORISTS.**  
**ALEXANDER & CO.,**  
 Court Florists,  
 16, Brook Street, London, W.  
 CHOICE CUT FLOWERS,  
 :: PLANTS, &c. ::  
 Telephone: 5355 MAYFAIR.

### OUR MEMORABLE CAMPAIGN AT THE N. U. T. CONFERENCE.

The last week of the Women's Freedom League campaign at Lowestoft was marked by the greatest enthusiasm and success. On Easter Monday Miss Munro spoke at Waveney-road and The Triangle to large and appreciative crowds; the able way in which she handled some interrupters and answered questions made a profound impression. On Tuesday we had a fine poster parade to advertise our indoor meeting, headed by the decorated waggone, which was followed by many members of the League carrying posters and our large coloured banner, "Dare to be Free." We paraded the streets of Lowestoft for nearly three hours; the result was that long before the time advertised for the commencement of the meeting St. Aubyn's Hall was filled to overflowing. Mr. J. Ponder, of Lowestoft, presided, and was supported on the platform by the Women's Freedom League members of the National Union of Teachers. In his opening remarks he bore testimony to the good work which the W.F.L. had done in Lowestoft during the Conference.

Miss Phipps dealt with the Parliamentary aspect of the National Union of Teachers; she claimed that an association which financed some of its members into Parliament had no right to differentiate between the sexes. Her illustration of the present Government's peculiar methods of utilising the knowledge and power at its disposal by sending Dr. Macnamara, a life-long practical expert on education, not, of course, to the Education Department, but to the Admiralty, was much appreciated by the audience.

Miss Neal, of Swansea, spoke of the waste of time, money, and energy in trying to educate children who were deficient in food, clothing, and decent housing accommodation; the recently instituted medical inspection of schools, she said, had revealed deplorable facts, especially in regard to widows and their children: often the whole family had to exist on a few shillings a week.

Mr. John Scurr took as his text, "Go Home and Mind the Baby!" To the entire satisfaction of the audience he proved that to carry out properly this anti-Suffrage command the Vote for Women was essential, as the real prosperity of the nation depended on the home and the baby being adequately attended to and understood. Woman's Suffrage, he insisted, was in the front rank of practical politics, taking precedence of such local minor disputes as Home Rule or Welsh Disestablishment.

When Miss Anna Munro rose to speak men and women alike showed their appreciation of her excellent speeches during the campaign by according her a rousing reception. She dealt in an impressive and illuminating way with the moral and spiritual aspect of the Woman's Movement. Votes of thanks to the chairman and speakers terminated a most successful meeting.

Our open-air meetings on Wednesday were again crowded, and on Thursday afternoon the Rev. W. Piggot, Warden of Blackfriars Mission, who was in the audience, offered to speak. He paid a warm tribute to the great work Mrs. Despard had done and is still doing; his speech was heard with close attention, and we tender him our very warm thanks for his warm-hearted and valuable support. On Friday night we closed our campaign with a huge meeting on The Triangle. A rowdy element in the crowd was effectively dealt with by the indefatigable police. A gentleman gave a sovereign towards the expenses as a testimony to Miss Munro's pluck.

The Women's Freedom League was the centre of chief interest in Lowestoft—not only to the delegates, but also the inhabitants—with its decorated waggone, regular and continuous meetings, and the happy and enthusiastic band of workers co-operating in every possible way by selling THE VOTE, other Suffrage literature, leaflets, &c., to make the campaign a great success. To our splendid workers we tender our most hearty and appreciative thanks. Nearly 1,000 copies of THE VOTE

were sold, and large quantities of literature, merchandise, badges, &c.

I have to acknowledge the following donations:—Miss Eunice Murray, £4; Anon., £1; Miss Sims, £1; Anon., £1; Miss Egget, 10s.; the Misses John, 10s.; A Member, 5s. There is still a small deficit on the cost of the campaign. Will any teachers or sympathisers kindly send me a donation so I can present to Dr. Knight a balance-sheet to show that the campaign has been carried through without any burden to Headquarters?

Alix Minnie Clark, Hon. Organiser.

Miss Mary A. Sims also suggests that those of her fellow teachers who were unable to help personally in the campaign should help financially to wipe out the deficit which remains.

### HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF. "THOSE REBELLIOUS PRESBYTERIAN WOMEN."

History repeats itself, and we find, if we search the pages of history, that the militant Suffragette has appeared in every period. At the time of the struggle for religious liberty in Scotland, women took a prominent part, and their efforts were by no means confined to peaceful persuasion. We read of women making "grivace uproars in churches," attacking unpopular curates with whips, throwing stones and pelting others with all sorts of missiles. One woman, the Marchioness of Hamilton, even appeared on horseback fully armed and prepared, if need be, to fire the first shot against the King's Army. Scores of women were sent to prison and tortured to try and subdue the faith that was in them, but their spirit was unconquerable—they could suffer, but they could not be tamed.

In the reign of James VI., women of all classes were to be found fighting for the Cause of Presbyterianism. Some with great effect wielded the pen. Adamson, Archbishop of St. Andrews, was vanquished by what he slightly calls the "weaker sex." We are told that "he had manie grait gifts, but speicillie excellet in the tung and pen," yet this prelate would not face his foes in open argument. He sheltered himself instead behind the Throne, and issued a Royal Proclamation charging women "instantly under pain of rebellion to leave their homes." Other women who were even more obstreperous were "directed to sell their furniture and remove from the capital and retire beyond the Tay, until they learnt to obey the law."

Again, in the reign of Charles I., we encounter militant women. On July 23, 1637, the Dean of Edinburgh was ordered to read the service for the first time in St. Giles' Cathedral. This order proved most unpopular amongst the Presbyterians, but it was left to a woman publicly to testify her disapproval. Janet Geddes, a name familiar in every Scottish household, when she heard the service, exclaimed at the top of her voice, "Villain, durst thou say mass at my lug?" Suiting the action to the word, she launched the cutty-stool on which she had been sitting at his head, intending, as a contemporary writer remarks, "to have given him a ticket of remembrance, but jounking became his safeguard." The church was speedily emptied. Warm disapproval was manifested at the time at Jenny Geddes' action, but to-day the spot from which Jenny threw her stool is pointed out to every visitor, and marked by a tablet. The Episcopalian minister of Ayr met with no better treatment from the women of Glasgow, where he had come to preach. As he left the church, "thirty or forty of our honestest women, in one voice they fall to raygling, cursing, and scolding, with such clamour," that Mr. Annan had to take refuge in a house, while two of the women were arrested and taken to the Tolbooth. After supper, when he once more ventured out, "hundreds of women of all qualities, with neaves and staves and peats, did beat him sore, his cloak, ruff and hatt were rent, however he escaped all bloody wounds, yet he was in great danger even of killing." (Baillies' letters and journals.)

On other occasions we find the women assembled

Copies of Paris  
Model Blouses.



Made in our own Workrooms and copied and adapted from the most exclusive models produced by Doucet, Drecoll, and other famous Paris Houses.

BLOUSE (as sketch), in fine white linen, with new shaped yoke and self-colour revers, in Saxe, Mauve, Tan, also White revers, piped colours.

PRICE  
29/6

CATALOGUE POST FREE.

**Debenham & Freebody**  
 Wigmore Street, London, W.

together to petition the Government for liberty to the non-conforming ministers to preach wherever they were called or had opportunity. This interest was manifested in all classes, from the peasant to the woman of nobility.

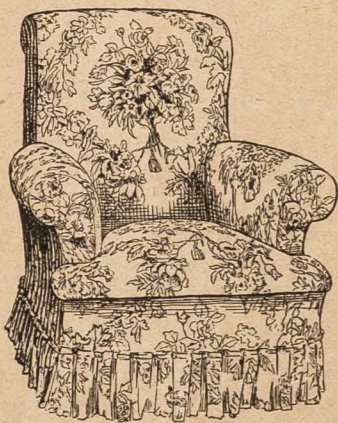
In the reign of Charles II. women were again well in the forefront of the fight. When the King ejected the Presbyterian ministers, we find women in every station sympathising with the ejected ministers and remaining faithful to their teaching and staunch to their Cause. Nor did they show much respect to the curates who were thrust upon them. At Irongray a body of them assailed the curate with stones; so furious was the fusillade of stones from the angry women that the curate and his supporters, though they were armed with pistols, beat a hasty retreat. This example was followed in other districts. The next offenders were in Kirkcudbright, when ten women were caught and punished, and these were followed by, I believe, a hundred congregations up and down the country, though the punishment became banishment to America, cruel whippings, and heavy fines. Amongst the "well-informed women" of the upper and middle class we hear of large numbers attending field-meetings. "Not many gentlemen of estates," says Kirkton, "durst come, but many ladies, gentlewomen and commons came in great multitudes. The agents appointed by the Government throughout the country, for putting in execution the laws for suppressing conventicles and other ecclesiastical disorders, had upon all occasions represented to the Privy Council that women were the chief fomentors of these disorders." Besides supporting the persecuted Cause of Presbyterians themselves, they had a powerful influence in infusing the principles of Nonconformity into their husbands, and in sustaining, on many occasions, their waning resolution. Archbishop Sharp repeatedly complains of this, and it gave peculiar energy to his bitter hatred of "these rebellious Presbyterian women."

The unyielding steadfastness displayed by these

women was a constant source of perplexity to the Government. Imprisonment, they saw, would not remedy the evil, for they could not find prisons to hold a tithe of those who were guilty. After twenty years of persecution, finding that the zeal of the women had not abated, and that the methods hitherto adopted had proved singularly unsuccessful, the Government came to the conclusion that they would fine the husbands of such women as withdrew from the Parish Church. Accordingly many husbands were heavily fined for their wives' shortcomings. Sir William Scott was fined £1,500 and imprisoned as well in Edinburgh. He most earnestly prayed the Privy Council to relieve him in future of his wife's delinquencies, as she would under no consideration "engage to hear the curates." The Privy Council turned a deaf ear to his request, and as Lady Scott would not give in, she crossed the border to Newcastle.

Besides this method of punishment, women were most cruelly ill-treated. In the parish of Auchenloch, a young woman, for refusing the oath of abjuration, had her finger burned with fire-matches until the bone appeared. In the same parish, Major White's soldiers "took a young woman and put a fiery coal into the palm of her hand to make her tell that which she was asked." Hundreds of women were fined, hundreds were imprisoned, and hundreds were banished to his Majesty's plantations, and discharged from ever returning to this kingdom under the pain of death, to be "inflicted on them without mercy," and before being shipped off they were, in many cases, burned on the cheek by the hands of the Layman with a red-hot iron, while some of them, being too old to banish, after lying in prison till their persecutors were weary of confining them and grudged the expense of supporting them, were whipped, burnt on the cheek, and dismissed. In spite of these repressive measures, the women remained unconquerable, and by their bravery and determination did much to win the Cause of Presbyterianism.

EUNICE G. MURRAY.



Write for Catalogue.

## Bedford Easy Chair

made with spring edge, covered in casement cloth, plain colour, a very comfortable and luxurious chair, upholstered with soft spring seat and back.

SPECIAL PRICE ... 32/6

Loose Cover for same in Cretonne at road yard. With frill as illustration, made complete 12/9

# THOMPSONS

Tottenham Court Road, London, W.

GENERAL DRAPERS  
COMPLETE HOUSE FURNISHERS

T. W. THOMPSON & CO., LTD.

NEAR MAPLES.

SUPPORT THOSE ADVERTISERS WHO SUPPORT US.

## THE GOVERNMENT'S COSTLY "DAY OUT."

The action recently brought unsuccessfully against the League's auditor, Mrs. Ayres Purdie, presented some curious and unusual features. Although nominally it was an action between the Director of Public Prosecutions, plaintiff, and Ethel Ayres Purdie, John Crawford Platt, and Edvvy Clayton, defendants, yet, as the second defendant had been discharged from the action before it came into court, and the third defendant could not be found, the brunt of the action fell on the female defendant.

The "Statement of Claim" against the defendants began thus: (Paragraph 1) "The Defendant Purdie is an accountant, and a sympathiser with the movement for obtaining Women's Suffrage. The Defendant Platt is an auctioneer. The Defendant Clayton is a chemist."

It will be noticed that it was not considered necessary to specify the political opinions of the male defendants, but in the case of the female defendant her views regarding Women's Suffrage are dragged in by the hair and cast down before the court as if they constituted the offence in respect of which she was being sued. Happily the judge was not to be prejudiced in this way, and declined to consider the question of Women's Suffrage, being irrelevant to the case.

Although the "Statement of Claim" says that the Defendant Purdie "is an accountant," yet in the course of the trial the Treasury Counsel described her as "a woman who calls herself an accountant." This gratuitous piece of impertinence however, did not do his case any good.

Paragraph 6 goes on to credit her with the gift of prophecy or second sight, in that she had "full knowledge" that when the Defendant Clayton came to be put upon his trial for conspiring with Mrs. Pankhurst and others, "he would be found guilty thereon, and be ordered to pay the costs." As the man had not at this time been put upon his trial, from what source was Mrs. Ayres Purdie supposed to have derived such knowledge, and what becomes of the theory that a man is to be deemed innocent until he is proved to be guilty and convicted? Had any newspaper claimed to have such knowledge as Mrs. Ayres Purdie is here credited with, it would have been punished for contempt of court.

Under the statute of the thirteenth year of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, chapter five, the plaintiff claimed against the Defendant Purdie, "as well for the King as for himself," a penalty of £150: "the one moiety to the King's Majesty and the other to the Plaintiff." As in the result neither of these persons got their "moiety," it is vain to speculate as to what each would have done with his £75.

There was a further claim for payment to the plaintiff of a sum of £97 14s. belonging to Mrs. Ayres Purdie, which was held by the Defendant Platt on her behalf, and for the handing over of half a dozen pictures.

Costs were claimed against the Defendants Purdie and Clayton, but the latter being *non est*, this really meant that the costs of all three defendants, as well as the plaintiff's costs, would have fallen on Mrs. Ayres Purdie in addition to the aforesaid penalty of £150, the loss of the £97 14s., and the pictures, had she not succeeded.

Mrs. Ayres Purdie therefore stood a chance of being mulcted of upwards of £500 in respect of this action: but as the plaintiff lost the day, and "the Defendant Purdie" secured "judgment with costs," this little expedition into the Law Courts is going to cost the Treasury a few hundred pounds.

A "COZENS" BAG is a necessity to every well-dressed woman and the choice is as remarkable as the cheapness. The Marble arch is one of the landmarks of London, and Messrs. Cozens establishment is within one minute's walk. Very much besides smart bags can be found; in fact, complete outfits, within the reach of shallow or deep purses, will appeal to the wise investor in search of the needful spring renewals of her wardrobe.

## WOMAN SUFFRAGE UNION, BRITISH DOMINIONS OVERSEAS.

The first Conference of the Union will be held on Thursday, July 9, 1914, in the rooms of the Westminster Palace Hotel, London, S.W. The following general programme has been arranged:—

10 a.m. Business meeting.

3.30 p.m. Public meeting, at which the chair will be taken by Sir John Cockburn, K.C.M.G. Miss Margaret Hodge and other women-leaders from the self-governing Dominions will speak on the scope of the Union. Other speakers will be Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Cecil Chapman, and the Rev. C. Hinscliff. Mrs. Fawcett has promised to send a representative.

8.30 p.m. Reception. Mrs. Chapman Catt, President of the International Women's Suffrage Alliance, hopes to be present. An entertainment will be given by members of the Actresses' Franchise League.

Our readers will be interested in the following particulars of this Union which will strengthen the Suffrage movement in the British Empire. The Woman Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas, is a Union by means of which Australia and New Zealand can co-operate with the Suffrage Societies in Canada and South Africa, in common endeavour to obtain for the women of these countries the same political rights as are already enjoyed by the men, and to arouse the women in all the self-governing Dominions to a fuller sense of their duties and responsibilities as citizens.

The Union originated in New Zealand in March, 1913, and has since then met with warm support in all the four Dominions. The Union will observe absolute neutrality on all party questions and on all strictly national questions. The only bond is adherence to the principle of equal suffrage.

The work of the Union will be defined at the Conference. As far as can be foreseen it will be primarily educational, by the organised circulation throughout the self-governing Dominions of Suffrage newspapers of every shade of opinion and of Suffrage literature of all kinds, and by the regular interchange of news concerning women's political work between the Dominions which are fully enfranchised and those in which women are not yet regarded as citizens.

Many societies exist to promote mutual knowledge and understanding between the far-severed lands united in the mighty commonwealth called the British Empire. The new Union aims at strengthening this work in one particular direction. It is hoped presently to extend the Union to embrace other parts of the British Empire beyond the Seas.

The full programme of the Conference, to be issued in advance, will contain information regarding every form of Suffrage work—meetings, "at homes," lectures, &c.—which will take place in London during the week July 5-12 inclusive. Particulars will also be given regarding meetings of the Women's Local Government Society, and other kindred organisations of women as citizens. Receptions, &c., are being arranged at the International Women's Franchise Club, the Suffrage Club, and by private individuals.

Arrangements will be made for those who desire it to visit the offices of the different Suffrage Societies and to see the working of each organisation in every part of London. The aim is to enable the delegates from the Dominions Overseas to form an estimate of the magnitude and force of the whole movement for the enfranchisement of women.

All Women's Organisations in Australia and New Zealand, and all Women Suffrage Societies in Canada and South Africa, have been invited to send delegates, men or women, to the Conference.

All Societies for Woman Suffrage in Great Britain and Ireland are earnestly requested to make the Conference known among their members. The presence of Suffragists, men or women, who have relatives or friends in the Dominions Overseas will be specially welcome.

TICKETS.—Delegates' tickets, admitting to all the meetings,

## D. H. EVANS & CO. New Blouse for Spring Wear.



No. 268

No. 268 VB.—BECOMING COTTON CREPE BLOUSE, with latest piped Sleeves and Turn-down Collar, embroidered with small Coloured Floral design. In White only. Price 8/11 1/2

290 to 322, OXFORD STREET, W.

ONLY ONE ADDRESS. NO BRANCHES ANYWHERE.  
D. H. Evans & Co. pay Carriage in Great Britain.

price 3s. 6d. Friends, other than delegates, either from overseas, or resident in Great Britain: Tickets admitting to afternoon and evening meetings, price 5s.; or separately, afternoon meeting, 2s. 6d. and 1s. 6d.; evening reception, 3s. 6d. Delegates from overseas are offered, for the week in which the Conference is to be held, the hospitality of the club-rooms of the International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton-street, W., or hon. membership of the Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, St. James's, S.W., by the kind courtesy of the committees of those two clubs respectively. Application by letter is requested.

Further information will be gladly given by Miss Harriet C. Newcomb, hon. secretary, and Mrs. Katherine Gray, hon. treasurer, Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association (London) and (*pro tem.*) Woman's Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas, care of International Women's Franchise Club, 9, Grafton-street, Piccadilly, London, W.

## TAX RESISTANCE AT HOVE.

There were several small and unlooked-for excitements in connection with the Tax Resistance sale at Hove on April 16. To begin with it was a forced sale in every sense of the word, for hitherto "the powers that be" have been considerate and even polite; they have arranged the sale at a time to suit the convenience of the tax resisters, but this year the date was arbitrarily fixed, and proved to be very inconvenient to Miss Hare, one of the three resisters, who was obliged to be away from Brighton at the time. Also the sale was announced to take place at 3 p.m.; notices were sent out to that effect, but when the day arrived the time was suddenly altered to 1.30. Telegrams were at once sent out to inform the members of the League, but many were too late, as the sale was again altered to one o'clock!

Miss Nina Boyle, during an interval in the sale, gave a spirited address on the injustice meted out to women in general and taxpayers in particular, who, she said, were forced into paying for goods they were not allowed to choose. Money was extorted from them by a Government which did not allow them to say how it should be spent. The speech was received with sympathy and hearty applause. An after-meeting, which was largely attended, was held on the Brighton Front. Miss Nina Boyle made another speech which aroused keen interest; many questions were asked, and a good collection was taken.

Owing to special pressure we are holding over till next week the article on the Civil Service Commission Report.

PLEASE MENTION "THE VOTE" WHEN ORDERING GOODS.

## THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.  
Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, April 24, 1914.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.  
Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

### EDITORIAL.

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

### SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

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

## THE POLICE AND THE PUBLIC.

Since the appointment of Sir Edward Henry to be Commissioner of Metropolitan Police some thirteen years have passed away. During that time friction between the police and the public in the capital of the United Kingdom has steadily increased. Accusations against the Force and its members have never been so plentiful; inquiries have constantly been demanded; and it is generally understood that the system of administration or the conduct of those responsible for it, is gravely at fault. Inspectors and superintendents, with few scruples and ample opportunity, are not wanting who, while making themselves vastly useful to those above them, prey upon the public, which is horribly at their mercy; and it would not appear, from the fashion in which his name is used and received, that the Chief of the Force is held in any great respect by those who serve under him and are subject to his notions of discipline.

On his way home from India, where he had distinguished himself by adopting and classifying the fingerprint system, Sir Edward (then Mr.) Henry tarried a while in the Transvaal to assist the military administration which was grappling with the intricacies of civil government. His advice was sought in connection with the organisation of the new police forces, and his fancy was caught and held by the delectable system of the *agent provocateur*—known in South Africa as the "trap"—which had spread its insidious poison throughout the police administrations of the sub-continent. This system Mr. Henry complacently annexed and made part of the British administration in which British gentlemen took their part. Its iniquities are unrivalled and its possibilities for corruption as varied and infinite as crime itself.

An experienced police officer, who had served through the Boer war and desired to obtain a Transvaal police appointment where his previous experience would profit him, on hearing of the system established, exclaimed indignantly, "I have served twenty-seven years in the police forces at home, and have never needed to lay a trap yet; and I would not earn my living like that if I were starving." He left the country in disgust.

Not long after the London Police Forces and the Home Office fell under the influence of this Orientalised gentleman, complaints cropped up in all directions of the attempts, instituted in every manner of secret fashion, to introduce the *agent provocateur* into British police work. That he has succeeded, in practice if not in principle, is plain to all who watch certain forms of police work with an understanding eye. And this success has struck a very sharp blow at the morale of the Metropolitan Police Force and the pride with which its members can take in honest work honestly done. More, it has tainted the Home Office; and through the Home Office, every provincial police force, all of which are in some measure influenced and controlled by the Home Office.

An inquiry was held in 1909 into the system of police administration. Evidence given before that Commission was deliberately suppressed at the request of

the solicitor for the police, on the ground of the infamous character of the witnesses. This evidence, therefore, is not touched on in the Commission's report, although by the efforts of one public-spirited man it was printed and distributed privately to persons interested. The evidence was to the effect that a building in which certain flats were let to street-walkers, obviously for immoral purposes, was situated opposite a police-station; that the caretaker was an ex-sergeant of the Force, pensioned; that he was thoroughly at home with his former colleagues, and made them thoroughly at home in the flats of the women they united in blackmailing and preying on; that drinks, tips, parties, and every kind of accommodation were unscrupulously extorted from these wretched women, both in their homes and on their dreadful "beat" in the streets; and that in spite of these extortions, the same men would arrest and charge them, whenever in need of a "conviction" to prove their watchfulness and activity.

This evidence was suppressed at the request of the police legal representative on the ground that even if it were true, it did not "represent" the system of police administration but existed in spite of it! The infamous character of the witnesses was inevitable, seeing what the charges were; what was overlooked was, that if the charges were true, the men concerned were as infamous as the women.

An ex-inspector of the Force is now being put on his trial for making charges in relation to Sir Edward Henry's system of the protection of criminals within the Force. The Women's Freedom League, independently of any inside information, has long taken up this ground; and we shall be curious to see what measure of justice the man who is fighting for cleaner methods will be able to secure. In the meantime, here are some points for the consideration of those who are likely to be interested in these matters.

The police do not qualify for promotion by convictions. This has always been strenuously denied. It is manoeuvred in this fashion. A district where there are many convictions, running up to a heavy total in the year, secures for its chief an extra 5s. a week. The other officials of the same rank—sub-divisional inspectors we believe to be their style and title—look with envy on this rise, and strive to secure it for themselves. Two young constables yearning for a chance to distinguish themselves are put on special duty, in plain clothes, for a month. The victims brought in are classified by the police themselves as run in "under the Breathing Act"—that is to say, if they cannot be charged with anything else they would be charged with breathing! Next month two other constables will be put to this special duty, with a hint to beat the record of those who went before. Naturally, the grateful chief whose salary secures a rise by this simple method of swelling his charge-sheets, recommends for promotion the energetic subordinates who showed such zeal in obliging him. It is all quite simple when you know it.

In the weighty volume of police regulations we find there set forth that fines incurred for drunkenness go to the police pensions fund. In 1912 there was a great decline in convictions for drunkenness, and in 1913 a great rise. We are informed that a local government Councillor, famous for his zeal in the public interest, elicited the admission, from an inspector in the local Police Force, that the Police Forces had received a circular from the Home Office calling attention to the drop in convictions for drink and the corresponding effect on the pensions fund. A nod is as good as a wink, under some circumstances; and if the tale be true—and it is easily verifiable, as we have been given the name of the local government Councillor—this would easily account for the sudden rise in convictions for 1913.

In the instructions issued to the police for their guidance in their dealings with the public we find: "Police giving evidence must do so fairly and impartially, remembering that they are sworn to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, and

## OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

Head of International Department: MRS. HARVEY, 4, Cleveland-gardens, Ealing, London, W.

Scotland's First Woman Pastor: Rev. Olive May Winchester, B.D.

For the first time in Scotland, as far as is known, a woman minister has officiated at a marriage, which took place on April 6 in a Glasgow hotel. The woman, who has the noteworthy distinction of making such a forward step in the feminist movement in Scotland, is the Rev. Olive May Winchester, B.D. She made a good beginning in the United States where she has done excellent work, but gained her B.D. (Bachelor of Divinity) degree at Glasgow.

From *The Glasgow Weekly News* of April 18 we take the following interesting particulars:—

"She is truly a remarkable personality, and her attainments are as remarkable. She obtained her B.D. degree after passing through the Divinity Hall at Glasgow University, an honour which she shares with Miss Melville, of St. Andrews."

"Miss Winchester not only took the degree and passed brilliantly, but she has been ordained to the ministry of the Pentecostal Church. She is, there is little doubt, the first woman to become a fully qualified and acting pastor in Scotland."

"The story of her career is most interesting. She was born in the United States of America, her father being a lawyer in Maine. On the death of her father she and her mother moved Eastward, and, after studying in Harvard University, she became a teacher in a theological school, the Pentecostal Collegiate Institute at North Situate, Rhode Island. Here she had the unique experience of training men for the ministry."

"Miss Winchester arrived in Glasgow five years ago to assist in the work of the Pentecostal Church, and during that time she entered the Divinity Hall of the University."

"Her entrance to the classes was treated as a huge joke by the male students, but Miss Winchester fairly turned the tables by proving herself at least a match for them. She gained the gold medal and several other honours, and one can well imagine the chagrin of the discomfited mere men students at being beaten by a woman! The Pentecostal Church admits women to the pastorate, and in America there are a number of women ministers; but the ordaining of Miss Winchester as a fully-qualified minister is an event unique for Scotland."

"In Glasgow Miss Winchester has acted in all the capacities of a pastor, though the wedding at which she officiated recently was the first in which she has taken part. The bridal couple were attached to the Pentecostal Church. She has often conducted the entire services at the Parkhead Church. Her duties, too, have included baptism."

"Her work in Scotland being now completed, the Rev. Miss Winchester is now on her way back to America, having sailed almost immediately after the wedding at which she officiated. She is returning to the Theological School to which she was formerly attached. Though a born American, Miss Winchester has Scottish blood in her veins, her ancestors having been natives of the Land 'o' Cakes. She is but little over thirty years of age, yet has attained these great distinctions."

The only fact to be regretted is that she has left the land where women ministers are unusual, and returned to work where they are already recognised and doing good service."

The Rev. Olive Winchester's attainments and ordination, and the establishment of the Woman's Church at Wallasey, at which the Rev. Hatty Baker officiated, will prove to men that what has so long been regarded as their monopoly is no longer safe!

### The British Ambassador and Mrs. F. A. Steel's Case.

The Women Writers' Suffrage League has received the following letter from the British Ambassador to the United States in answer to a letter calling his attention to the insult offered to Mrs. Flora Annie Steel in the attempt to prohibit her from landing because suffering from senile decay:—"Madam,—On receipt of your letter to-day I at once addressed a note to the United States Government. I should, however, be glad to learn any further particulars relating to Mrs. Steel's detention. I have not yet heard from her.—Yours faithfully, CECIL SPRING RICE, H.M. Ambassador."

### An Anti Converted.

Mrs. Julian Heath, President of the Housewives League in the United States, startled the Equal Franchise Society in New York recently, says *The New York Sun*, by announcing her conversion to votes for women.

"I have addressed," she said, "hundreds of suffrage meetings on the subject of food, but not a single anti-audience. I do not believe they are as much interested in the home as they pretend to be."

"That is quite an admission from the former secretary of Mrs. Gilbert Jones' Anti-Suffrage League," broke in Mrs. Howard Mansfield, President of the Franchise Society, who was in the chair; "Are you not an Anti, Mrs. Heath?"

"Not any more," said Mrs. Heath, smilingly. "I have come to see the necessity for votes."

that their sole object is to see that justice is done. They must state all facts in their own knowledge which tell in favour of the accused as well as those which tell against him, and must never allow themselves to be influenced by any feeling for or against any person concerned."

These words were set down in 1829. They clearly point out that it is not the duty of the police to secure convictions but justice—a matter on which they are at variance with Sir Edward Henry's sub-divisional inspectors and others. We commend them to our readers for reference when next they come in contact with Mr. Musket and his insolent inferences as to their conduct and intentions; for if this applies to the police, it also applies to the solicitors who conduct their cases for them. How far Commissioners and other officials have wandered from the standard set in 1829 we are in a good position to judge; and we have even heard of magistrates who instruct police officials to bring, or withdraw, more or less serious charges against accused persons, regardless of "the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth." The morale of the Force has suffered, to a perfectly shocking and incredible degree, under its present Chief and his complacent subordinates, and it is a serious and special danger to voteless women. We need not point out to Suffrage readers the frequency with which men, organised with votes, secure an "inquiry"—unsatisfactory though it may be—into the conduct of the police; we have seen the Dublin, the East London, and other complaints investigated at the demand of angry men. The Black Friday business, the Glasgow affray, the Wetherall case, all demand inquiry with equal—nay, with far greater—urgency; and it is asked for in vain. This alone, if proof were needed, shows how sorely women need the protection and power of the vote and how seriously they can suffer and be oppressed in its absence.

C. NINA BOYLE.

### IT WAS A SUMMER EVENING.

*With apologies to R. SOUTHEY.*

It was a summer evening,  
The sun was sinking down,  
And on the Premier's forehead lay  
A very heavy frown,  
While round about his desk were set  
The members of his Cabinet.  
"Come, tell us what it's all about!"  
The eager Winston cries.  
McKenna turned his eyes on him  
With many heavy sighs.  
"Oh, tell me what to do," said he  
"How can I gain the victory?"  
I put these women into gaol  
And there they will not eat;  
Yet if I let them die, the names  
They'll call me will be ——— sweet;  
But if I let them out of prison  
Men jeer and hold me in derision.  
The Premier's frown grew darker yet,  
And with a heavy thump  
He brought his hand down on his desk  
And made poor Reggie jump.  
"I beg," said he, "you'll kindly note  
That women shall not have the vote."  
"But then, you know," said little George,  
"I'm sure you'll all agree  
The ladies we should try to please,  
It is good policy.  
Oh, I remember when," said he,  
"I sat upon my mother's knee."  
"Don't be a coward!" Winston cried;  
"I know, if it were I,  
I should find means to make them eat,  
Or know the reason why.  
For I can fight on Africa's plain,  
And I can steer an aeroplane."  
"Then tell me how to treat them, pray;  
Describe some strong new Acts.  
You all can say I am to blame,  
I wish you'd come to facts."  
No answer came. "Alas!" said he  
How shall I gain the victory?"

—H. S.

**THE "PROTECTED" SEX.****Torture.**

After being forcibly fed no fewer than 232 times since her re-arrest in January, Kitty Marion, the militant Suffragist, has been released from Holloway Gaol. She is weak and emaciated, and two friends who visited her after her release state that they would not have recognised her, so much has she changed. She is a young woman, and looks like a woman of seventy. She has lost 2 st. 8 lb. in weight. Shortly before her release the pain caused by the forcible feeding was so intense that Miss Marion begged the doctor to finish it at once by giving her poison. She states that so great did the repeated physical and mental agony become that she felt she would have to put an end to it by hanging herself. Once, feeling that something drastic must be done as a protest, she broke the glass protecting the gas light and set the bedclothes on fire. She is now in a nursing home.

(These tortures were inflicted by the medical officers of Holloway, who, in the intervals of reducing this young woman to the pitiable condition described above by *The News of the World*, were endeavouring to ingratiate themselves with the Women's Freedom League prisoners and professing their anxiety to make them comfortable.)

**Killed.**

Mrs. M'Alcer, Ballinamullen, Co. Tyrone, and her baby and little daughter, whom she returned to save, beaten to death by husband with an iron crook and the tongs. Had been drinking heavily, and was on bad terms with his wife, and had been persuaded to sleep at his brother-in-law's. In the early morning stole out, and meeting the servant girl, attacked her ferociously, she escaping with severe injuries to the head and streaming with blood. Mrs. M'Alcer, after being assaulted, escaped, but came back for her children. The door had been roped up outside to prevent escape from within. Her body was found in a pool of blood, brain protruding and a portion of skull at some distance, the baby dead in her arms and the other child clinging to her skirts. A third child was alive and asleep in the house. M'Alcer then drowned himself in a quarry near by.

Catherine Butler, Borough, walking with another girl, made some jest at the expense of a youth whom they passed. He shot her in the back. Died that night in Guy's Hospital. Thomas Spencer, aged sixteen, charged with murder.

(It will be remembered that another young lad shot a girl in the same casual way a short time ago, and suffered no penalty, and that yet another, in charge of some vans at a fair ground, shot some people who came near, and was acquitted of blame. It is time some sense of responsibility was impressed on these undesirable young citizens, their parents, and the altogether reprehensible tradesmen who sell them firearms.)

**Brutal Assault.**

Martha and Eliza French, terribly injured in a brawl provoked by John O'Brien, who attacked another lodger, in bed, in a house in Oakley-street, Tower Bridge. During the fight between the two men, Mrs. French, who rushed to bring her children into safety, was stabbed by O'Brien in the eyes, her daughter in the back of the neck, and another woman was also injured. Mrs. French's wounds are terrible, one eye being destroyed, and the sight of the other threatened.

Leah Ling, Chatham, attacked by Harry Golder, of the Royal Naval Barracks, on a country road. Prisoner was drunk, pursued and struck her, and hung her to the ground. Prisoner pleaded drunkenness and did not remember the occurrence.

**One month.**

Annie Jones (15), brought up at the Guildhall, having been "found wandering," was found by the surgeon to have been shockingly ill-treated and badly bruised, scantily clothed, ragged and shivering with cold. Had run away from a house in Southgate-road because she had been so knocked about. Inquiry ordered.

Charlotte Doyle, Marylebone (17), "keeping company" for three years with Joseph Brown (20), of Camden Town. In a quarrel about her going about with other lads, Brown blacked her eyes. **Fined 20s.**

Young girl, in domestic service in Haddington, charged Thomas Gaffney with assaulting her, dragging her about, and trying to strike her. It was the second time she had been attacked by him. She had been engaged to him, but wanted to have no more to do with him, and he followed her about, pestered her, got hold of her in places where few people were about to see him, and she was terrified to be about by herself or after dark. **Three weeks.**

Gladys D'Olivera, Leyton, found drowning herself and her baby. Endeavouring to escape from brutal husband, whom

**SUPPORT YOUR FELLOW SUFFRAGETTES:**

**JANE HARDING** (MEMBER W.F.L.)  
Cordially invites fellow members to view her  
**STOCK OF MILLINERY, GOWNS and BLOUSES**  
AT HER SHOWROOMS, 10, HANOVER STREET, W.

Tastefully Trimmed Hats, from 10/9. Well-cut Blouses, from 6/9.  
Soft Silk and Crepe de Chine Gowns, from 51/9.

she had married last September, and left in March on account of his cruelty. She went into the workhouse to escape him, but on April 15 he came and demanded that she should be handed over to him, and this was done. She went straight away to drown herself. The Bench, remanding her to the West Ham Infirmary for a week, warned the husband that the woman would have to be protected from him.

Maggie Lee, married to a Chinaman at Sheffield, told a tale of hideous cruelty. Her husband beat and struck her, tied some stuff round her neck and dragged her about with it, hit her on the head with a hammer and with a red-hot poker, threw her downstairs and refused to maintain her. Furious scenes because she would not go out and fetch in girls for herself and a crowd of other Chinamen. **Separation order, 10s. a week.** No charge made against the Chinaman for cruelty, and apparently none in respect of the traffic in girls.

**Traffic in Women.**

Milly Freedman first met her husband when living in disorderly house at the age of sixteen. Married her and treated her with great cruelty. Told her he could not afford to keep her any more, and that she could go back to where she came from, where she could get more money. Threatened to lead her "a dog's life" if she came back to him, had tried to strangle her, threatened to shoot her, and struck her. Mr. Leicester, Thames Police-court, at the suggestion of the husband's counsel, Mr. Margott, **adjourned the case**, to see if they could agree to live together!

[In a recent case, when a wife sued her husband, the magistrate pointed out that she had threatened him with a razor, and that a man might well be afraid to return to a woman who had threatened his life! It seems a small thing, however, to magistrates and counsel that women should be coerced and brow-beaten into taking these risks at the hands of husbands! If a man may reasonably be "afraid" to return to a woman who threatens, how much greater must the fear be on the part of a weaker woman; and how infinite is the lack of insight and understanding on the part of these bumbles and blunderers of the Bench?]

Maud Archer charged Bernard Levy, with whom she had lived off and on for years. The woman, quite young, had supported him by immoral earnings in London, and then he had taken her to Buenos Ayres, where "she could earn more." Had consigned her there to a house where she earned from 300 to 400 dollars a week, which he called every week to collect from the proprietor, who took his share. She gave him 500 dollars to get home, when he deserted her, but found her out again, and got about £4 a week from her under pretext of marrying her. She found out, however, that he was keeping another girl with the money.

**Criminal Assault.**

At Burntisland Police-court, before Provost Kirke, a Norwegian sailor was convicted of criminal assault on a child of four years old, daughter of a barman. The Bench made the usual comments on the "gross nature of the crime," and **fined** the offender **£5 or one month.**—*Edinburgh Evening Dispatch*, April 11.

[*Votes for Women* quotes a case from Govan, indecent assault on a child of four. Bailie Paxton gave **two months**. While at Falkirk, before Sheriff Mitchell, on a charge of entering a shop and stealing a bottle of port wine (with previous convictions), John Devlin was given **fifteen months**.

Doris Bilton, aged fifteen, Lincoln, made serious allegations against three men on a barge moored in the pool. She had been dismissed from service and was afraid to go home, she stated, and one man had persuaded her to go on the barge. He had attempted to assault her and had locked her in. Afterwards the two other men made attempts. Was let go next morning and was found wandering by the police, who took her home. **Men committed for trial.**

**A Hard Case.**

Julia Benjamin, twelve, by order of the Children's Court, sent to Jewish Industrial School, Mr. Clarke Hall declaring she would be much better there than at home. The charge was that she was living in circumstances likely to lead to her downfall, as her parents and five children lived in two rooms which were very dirty. There was a pitiful scene in court, the parents weeping and flinging themselves down, the child shrieking, and dreadful lamentation.

It seems a thoroughly heartless proceeding to take the child away without giving the parents reasonable time in which to alter the conditions; and it would appear, if all young girls who are brought up in overcrowded surroundings are to be placed in public institutions, that the overcrowding will very shortly be transferred to the institutions! We note that at the Bradford City-court, Richard Naylor was called upon to "abate the nuisance" caused by the overcrowding of a bedroom, which he occupied with his wife, a girl of seventeen, a boy of thirteen, a boy of ten, a girl of eight, and two younger boys. And we suggest that Mr. Clarke Hall and others, instead of tearing children from their parents, should instruct some official of the court, or ask that some official shall be appointed for the purpose, to warn such households, and to find them decent quarters within a reasonable time.

**THE AWAKENING OF WOMEN.**

"The awakening of women is the greatest feature of the twentieth century," said Miss C. Nina Boyle, in introducing Miss Harriet Newcomb, who gave a most interesting lecture on this subject at our Discussion Meeting at Headquarters on April 20. Miss Newcomb told, from personal knowledge, how the women voters of New Zealand and Australia had awakened to their power and responsibility; how the voteless women of South Africa were making excellent progress in the Suffrage struggle, and how in Canada women were alert to the value of the vote. In Australia and New Zealand, she said, where the women's fight for freedom had not been so severe, women were being educated through the vote; in England they are being educated before they get it. Where women vote politics are a subject of general interest and conversation; girls grow up in an atmosphere of free discussion on national concerns, and often carry on well-sustained arguments with their parents. The publicans, in fact, disapprove of votes for women because men stay at home and discuss politics with their wives and families instead of in drinking bars. Pioneer social work in these countries has been done by men and women together. Women, said Miss Newcomb, began by voting as men directed, but since they have gained a clear knowledge of the value of their vote to the State they are "getting sick of party" and have formed women's non-party political organisations, which are continuously increasing in number and power. Miss Newcomb gave instances of the fine work accomplished by these non-party organisations in preventing legislation detrimental to women. In Australia and New Zealand one standard of morality for men and women is coming nearer to realisation through equality of citizen rights. References to it at public meetings are greeted with immediate applause; in South Africa, said Miss Newcomb, recalling personal experiences, such references were met with dead silence. South Africa, she added, is imperatively in need of woman's direct influence in legislation and public affairs. Miss Newcomb outlined the new union between Women Suffragists in the Overseas Dominions of King George and the women of the Mother Country which she is helping to form, of which in another column we give particulars, and of the inaugural conference to be held in London on July 5. Its aim will be to make known in all the Overseas Dominions the facts about the women's fight at home—of which they are woefully ignorant, largely owing to false cables and newspaper reports—and to enable the women voters to render effective help to their voteless sisters. Miss Newcomb was heartily thanked for her illuminating address.

**WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.****The First Woman J.P.**

A presentation of her portrait was made at the annual meeting of the West Ham Board of Guardians on April 17 to Miss Emily Cecilia Duncan, to mark the completion of her twenty-first year of public service as a Poor-law guardian.

Miss Duncan was the first woman to be appointed a Justice of the Peace for the administration of the Lunacy Acts, and yesterday retired from the position of chairman of the West Ham Board of Guardians, which she has held for one year. She has served on other public bodies in the district, having been a member of the School Board for some years, a member of the West Ham Education Committee, and also a member of the District Committee since its formation five or six years ago. Last Monday Miss Duncan was re-elected as a guardian for Stratford, and has, therefore, another three years' service on the Board.

**New Union for Waitresses.**

Waitresses have at last organised. They are now taking steps to secure the registration of a genuine Trade Union. It is called the National Association of Waitresses, and has its headquarters at 21, High-street, Bloomsbury, W.C. The work of bringing this Association into existence commenced six weeks ago. On April 11 a meeting was held, and the following resolution was carried unanimously:—

"Resolved, at this meeting of waitresses and female restaurant and hotel assistants, to form an association, on trade union principles, for the promotion and protection of our common interests as employees in the catering trade; to support such association by every means in our power, and to extend its influence in hotels, cafés, teashops and all other catering establishments throughout the United Kingdom. The new organisation to be called the National Association of Waitresses."

"We shall be able to approach employers with more chance of obtaining an adequate wage and reasonable hours," explains one of the organisers, a former waitress. "The average waitress in a tea-shop gets about 10s. 6d. a week all told; some not as much. Many have 63 hours of labour a week; I know of some having 73 to 78. In a few City restaurants frequented by well-to-do merchants, waitresses may make 30s. a week or more with tips; these restaurants are called 'The Waitresses' Paradise.' We have over 200 girls members already. We propose to organise a system of marriage dowries for our members."

**WE MAKE A SPECIAL APPEAL to all who support our Advertisers to send receipts or amounts spent with these firms to the Advertisement Manager before April 30.**

**PERFECTION IN  
LADIES' TAILORING.**



THIS perfectly TAILORED  
SUIT, made to measure by  
Men Tailors who are artists at  
their work, in superior quality  
Cashmere or Worsted Suiting.  
**5 Guineas.**  
  
Plain Tailor Suits from  
**4 Guineas.**

WHILST our prices  
may be termed  
"Popular,"  
we nevertheless claim  
that our productions  
are in every way equal  
to the garments pro-  
duced by the most  
expensive West End  
Tailors.

**Knight Bros**  
34 & 36, Oxford Street,  
(next to Frascati's)  
**LONDON, W.**

Patterns of the Newest  
Materials with Booklet of  
Latest Styles and Perfect  
Self-Measurement Form,  
sent post free.

**LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.****Latest Pamphlet.**

**The Illogical Sex?** By Miss Eunice Murray. Price 1d.

**Writing Blocks.**

A fresh supply of pads has come in which can be had either quite plain or with the W.F.L. badge stamped in green in the corner, prices as follows:—Large (8 in. by 10 in.), 100 sheets, plain, 6½d. each; with badge, 8d. each. Small (5 in. by 8 in.), 100 sheets, plain, 4½d. each; with badge, 6½d. each.

Envelopes, stamped with the W.F.L. badge, price 3d. packet of 25.

**"WHAT SHALL I READ?"**

You will find some excellent books on Woman Suffrage and other subjects of interest and importance to women in the Women's Freedom League Library. It offers you an excellent choice for the very modest sum of one shilling yearly subscription, and one penny per volume per week. It grows continually; many new books have recently been added, but Mrs. Carey, hon. librarian, will welcome any gifts of books from writers' or friends who will help our Cause and our League in this way. Already the library has earned a good amount, and the more subscribers there are the greater the help it can give. Call at Headquarters and inspect the catalogue. If you can come on Thursdays between 5 and 6 p.m. you will find Mrs. Carey herself—and tea!

"HAVE YOU BEEN TO JANE'S?" "Which Jane's?" "Why, Jane Harding's, of course, 10, Hanover-street (second floor), W. I know you think shopping is a bother, but it is easy at Jane Harding's, where you get hats, blouses, gowns, and all sorts of accessories without moving from the comfortable chairs she provides. She takes such trouble, too, in pleasing you. She is also an ardent Suffragist, and has worked hard for the Cause, which is another reason for supporting her. Expensive? Quite the contrary. It is surprising what good value she gives you—modish little hats at astonishingly moderate prices, also well-cut, serviceable blouses, and, best of all, perhaps, the ready-made gown for afternoon or evening. It's a blessing to be able to step into a gown without bothering over materials, style, trimmings, and numerous fittings. Jane has excellent taste! "Good, let's go at once to 10, Hanover-street, Regent-street, W."

## ENTHUSIASM AT ROTHESAY.

Miss Eunice G. Murray received a most enthusiastic welcome and sympathetic hearing when she spoke at the public meeting on April 17 at Rotheday which had been organised for Mrs. Despard, who is unable through most regrettable illness to fulfil any engagements for some time. The hall was crowded out and very many had to be turned away. The Rev. J. M. Dickie, B.D., who was a delightful and efficient chairman, said that he had always been a strong supporter of the women's cause. He affirmed that the whole subject had been shamefully shuffled by politicians of all parties; and commented strongly on the meanness of the argument denouncing militancy. The only arguments which opponents of Woman's Suffrage can offer really resolve themselves into one word—Prejudice. He had noted and commended the splendid work being done by the Women's Freedom League and kindred societies, and urged them to even greater efforts. Miss Eunice G. Murray declared that women had not taken up militancy soon enough; they had been ladies first and politicians afterwards. The great miracle was the astonishingly long patience of women when asking only for what is a fundamental act of justice. Men's forefathers fought as women are doing to-day, to establish this principle of citizen rights. Britain's American colonies were lost through taxation without representation; it was through the spirit of rebellion that men won their vote in 1867. Women had had a hard fight to win University degrees, but now statues were erected to the women pioneers of progress. So it would be so with the militant women of to-day. The fight will be over when women have won their victory and received just treatment, as witness what has accrued in countries where the woman's vote is established. "Until we do get what we want," said Miss Murray, "we are going to be a nuisance; democracy does not and cannot reign with women left out. We are offered sympathy, we do not want it; we want deeds, and not fair-seeming words." She concluded her instructive and racy lecture—which was listened to with keen attention by the closely-packed audience—by declaring her triumphant belief that our Cause is sweeping on to the stage of fulfilment before long; and till then must be pursued with all the ardour and pressure possible.

Councillor G. G. Hill, who supported the chair, after a brief address wholly favourable to our aim and methods, moved the resolution, "That this meeting called upon the Government to introduce without further delay a Government measure to give the Parliamentary franchise to women." It was seconded by Miss Gilmour, and carried unanimously with acclamation.

Questions were invited, and answered by Miss Murray. She was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks, and the desire was expressed to hear her again. A liberal collection was taken and a large amount of literature sold. C. G.

## WILLIAM OWEN

Westbourne Grove,  
LONDON, W.

FOR

There is more than usual interest in the Blouse Dept.

The taste and selection displayed in this section is well known, but besides this, and of most importance, is the value obtainable.

The dept. is a very great feature of the business, and all who have made purchases say that the price of WILLIAM OWEN'S Blouses is extraordinary.

A visit of inspection is solicited.

## BLOUSES

WILLIAM OWEN, Ltd., Westbourne Grove, W.

## SUFFRAGE AND PROGRESS AND HOOLIGANISM AT BRADFORD.

Bradford is without its space for open-air meetings; however, a forbidden spot, Rawson-square, was fixed upon by the W.F.L. last Thursday night, when a successful meeting was held. Miss Burgess presided and Miss Read spoke to a very interested audience of between 500 and 600 people. Miss Williams was busy with THE VOTE, which sold well, and much encouragement was expressed towards the close of the meeting. The police made unsuccessful efforts to disperse the audience; they were responsible, however, for rousing the hooligan element among some irresponsible youths, and after doing so, shifted the blame on to the Suffragists by accusing them of creating obstruction. As a result, the speakers were followed for some distance by boys blowing trumpets and throwing stones, but happily no serious damage resulted.

An exciting and unpleasant experience befel our workers on Friday at a meeting outside one of the weaving factories. After Miss Read had spoken for a quarter of an hour to a very sympathetic audience, a gang of boys, without the least warning, rushed the speaker, who was thrown from the platform. The women in the crowd made brave but unsuccessful attempts to prevent the attack. Fortunately no serious damage accrued; after taking friendly shelter for a time in a grocer's shop, Miss Read and Miss Burgess proceeded home; on the way a woman expressed great regret that such treatment should be meted out to Suffrage speakers.

Sunday, the Clarion Camp (Chesian End) was visited, and though a formal meeting was not possible, a tea-table discussion on Woman's Suffrage took place, which gave prominence to the W.F.L.

A meeting was held in Shipley Market-place on Monday evening, and Miss Burgess, who presided, was successful in attracting a big crowd. Keen interest was shown in Miss Read's speech on the urgent need for the extension of the franchise to women. No opposition was shown; THE VOTE and Miss Boyle's pamphlet, "The Traffic in Women," were sold. We are indebted to Miss Burgess, Miss Williams, and Miss Pell for the support given in the Bradford campaign.

Last week reference was made to the Baby Clinic and other progressive features of progressive Bradford. The clinic has 2,890 infants on the register for daily treatment. The mothers of the children are taught methods of hygiene, food preparation, and the making of garments and necessities for the young life, giving the maximum of comfort with the minimum of expense. At the municipal milk depot in connection with the clinic 300 gallons of milk are given daily to deserving cases of nursing mothers and ailing babies. At the cooking depot meals for 2,100 children are cooked and dispatched to twenty different feeding centres. An outlay of £6,000 yearly is made in connection with this work. Two-course dinners are provided. The following is a typical menu:—

MON.—Vegetable soup. Rice pudding.  
TUES.—Meat hash. Stewed fruit.  
WED.—Potato and onion soup. Ginger pudding.  
THURS.—Beef, two vegetables. Jam roll.  
FRI.—Fish pie, peas. Semolina pudding.

The children are fed during holidays. Whilst rejoicing in the way the present grievous situation is dealt with, it is to be remembered that, given a chance, woman's voice would be effective in abolishing conditions which demand such relief. We ought to have not only open-air schools as a palliative for ailing children, but institute open-air schools for the fit. The men need women's counsel.

## SHOP ASSISTANTS DEMAND VOTES FOR WOMEN.

The National Amalgamated Union of Shop Assistants, Warehousemen and Clerks held their annual conference during the Easter holidays in Leicester.

A resolution was passed in favour of continuing registration of unemployed members at the Labour Exchange. By this method of procedure the Union get a grant from the Government of 2s. per head per member, which rebate last year brought into the funds over £1,500; but this means the independence of the organisation being sacrificed.

Those who deplore the record of the present Government regret the rank and file should be content to have their real fighting power limited, and require to have not more but fewer dealings with Government officials when fighting for liberty.

Another interesting item is "A resolution in favour of the remote Adult Suffrage gave place to the one of Votes for Women."

**BRILLIANT MASCULINE LOGIC.**—"Lady Sawyer had kept the habitation together in a wonderful way during the last few years. She was a real fighter. . . ." On the subject of Women's Suffrage Lord Norton advocated the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the matter, and suggested that the Prime Minister should bind over the women militants to keep the peace while their case was *sub judice*. Those who broke the peace should be deported. He had written to the Prime Minister on those lines, and had had a reply stating that his suggestion was receiving consideration.—*Birmingham Post*, April 18, report of Primrose League Annual Meeting.

## BRANCH NOTES.

*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 inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.*

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

## LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Clapham.

A fine crowd gathered at St. Luke's-road last Monday evening. Miss Trott spoke on the policy of the Women's Freedom League, on her recent arrest in Whitehall, her imprisonment in Holloway, and the outrageous insult of the authorities in attempting to take the fingerprints of women political prisoners. The chair was taken by Miss F. A. Underwood. We want more helpers at these open-air meetings—to take the collection, sell THE VOTE, to try to secure members, and to distribute handbills of our public meeting in the Lower Hall, Clapham, on Monday evening, May 18, when the speakers will be Mrs. Mustard and Mrs. Tanner, and the chair will be taken by Mrs. Hull, of Bourne-mouth. Next Monday evening, at 8 o'clock, Mrs. Tanner will speak at St. Luke's-road.

## East London.

The next Branch meeting will be on Thursday, April 30, at 7 p.m., at 37, Wellington-buildings, Bow. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend as important matters will be discussed.

## PROVINCES.—Ipswich.

We had an unexpected visit from Miss Andrews on April 16. We had not intended to have a meeting during Easter week, but notices were hastily sent out and a good number came in spite of the short notice, to give Miss Andrews a hearty welcome after her long absence. She gave a most interesting account of her prison experiences. Please do not forget the Jumble Sale on May 1 at 3 p.m., also that jams and pickles are much wanted for sale at the Shop. We have nice dolls for sale from 1s. each, and other useful articles.

## SCOTLAND.—Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop: 90, Lothian-road.

The closing meeting of the winter session took the form of an "At Home," at which a most enjoyable report of the Conference was given by our delegate, Miss A. B. Jack. Miss Jack received a very hearty vote of thanks for her services as delegate, and also for the report which she afterwards submitted as hon. secretary of the Branch. Miss Wood's half-yearly report showed the finances to be in a satisfactory condition. That this may continue to be so, and that we may be able to extend our borders, we appeal for hearty support for our Jumble and Summer Sales, both to be held in May. Branch officials were elected as follows:—Hon. sec., Miss A. B. Jack; assistant sec., Miss H. McLachlan, M.A.; hon. treas., Miss M. A. Wood; assistant treas., Miss Nannie McLaren; shop sec., Mrs. Thomson; literature sec., Miss Harvey; committee, Miss Sara Munro, Miss Dundas Grant, Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Jackson, Mrs. Crabbe, Miss Stirton, Miss A. C. McLaren, Mrs. Steven, Miss Rattray, Mrs. Burnett.

## Glasgow.—Suffrage Shop: 70, St. George's-road.

On April 15 a very successful kitchen meeting was held in Castle-bank-street, Partick. Mrs. Gouck kindly lent her kitchen, and a good audience was present to hear Miss Bessie Sample. The women were much impressed by what they heard. It is intended to hold a series of kitchen meetings in order to reach women who cannot easily attend public meetings. Will members please note that the sewing party is still being held in the Shop on Monday evenings from 7 to 9 o'clock, and all who can attend will be gladly welcomed? On May 4, however, owing to Miss Boyle's meeting, the sewing party will not be held. Now that the weather is warmer we shall be glad of volunteers to help at open-air meetings. Will members please buy their tea and soap from us? Both are of good quality.

## OTHER SOCIETIES.

**Women's Tax Resistance League.**  
At Worthing goods belonging to Miss Oliver were sold last week by Messrs. Carter and Beynor, at 5, Bath-place, under distraint for King's Taxes. A good protest was made in the auction room and, in spite of much opposition, the women were cheered after the gold brooch was sold.

A large crowd assembled on the sea-front for the open-air meeting, organised by the Women's Tax Resistance League, and followed by a procession down the sea front with banners flying and surfshades bearing the device "No Vote, No Tax." Mrs. Kineton Parkes was the speaker, and the following resolution was passed unanimously: "That this meeting protests against the seizure and sale by public auction of goods belonging to Miss Oliver, and considers that women are justified in refusing to pay all Imperial Taxes until they have the same control over the national expenditure as male taxpayers possess."

## FORTHCOMING SALES.

Monday, April 27.—Miss Green will have goods sold at 2 p.m., at Messrs. Hawkings, 26, Lisson-grove. Procession from Marble Arch Tube to Auction Room, start 1.30 sharp. *Chair:* Mrs. Sadd Brown. *Speakers:* Mrs. Kineton Parkes and others.

Tuesday, April 28.—Miss Neligan will have goods sold at 2 p.m., at Messrs. King and Everall's, 128, George-street, Croydon (close to East Croydon Station). *Chair:* Miss Julian.

**KEEP A LOOK OUT!**—It will not only be our Bromley members who will keep their eyes open to see the admirable novelties in blouses, &c., which Messrs. F. Medhurst, High-street, Bromley, will offer at very moderate cost to the readers of THE VOTE each week. Those in the neighbourhood will be wise to take advantage of the offer, and visit the shop; those who are unable to do so can send their orders by post; parcels are forwarded carriage paid throughout the United Kingdom, and money paid is refunded if the goods are not approved. Messrs. Medhurst are thus within a penny fare (by post) from everywhere. Try them.

**DAINTY and  
EXCLUSIVE  
BLOUSES.**



We shall offer each week to readers of THE VOTESOME charming novelties in Blouses. They are exceptionally well made, and the value is beyond criticism.

**BERYL.**—Smart white Voile Blouse, low collar, and cuffs trimmed Valenciennes lace, tucked em-broidered front.

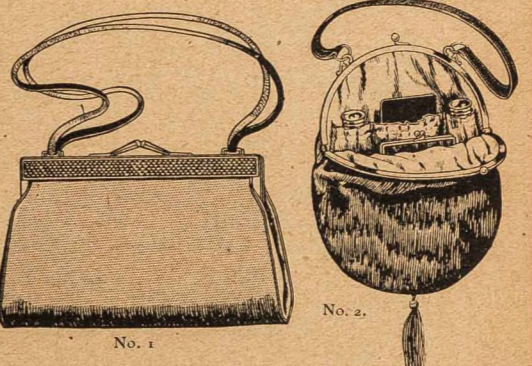
Price 7/11

We pay carriage throughout the United Kingdom.

**F. MEDHURST, Ltd.**  
High St., BROMLEY, KENT.

*Money refunded if not approved.*

*The Finishing Touch*  
to Everywoman's Walking-out Dress.



*A Smart Bag*

**COZENS**

*have them in Every Style and Material.*

No. 1. A useful morocco grain bag with smart fancy frame, strong handles, and repp lining, each 1/9. Post Free.

No. 2. Smart black moire bag, gilt frame, fitted with purse, two glass bottles with gilt stoppers and mirror, each 2/9. Post Free.

G. Cozens & Co., Ltd.,  
Marble Arch, Edgware Road, W.

PLEASE MENTION "THE VOTE" WHEN ORDERING GOODS.

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



DARE TO BE FREE.

Fri., April 24.—CROYDON, 32A, The Arcade, High-street, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle, "Corruption in Modern Politics—Apologies to Mr. Cecil Chesterton." Chair: Miss Bennett. Caxton Hall. Reception to Released Prisoners, 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss Boyle and released prisoners. Sat., April 25.—TOTTENHAM, The Institute, Jumble Sale, 3 p.m. Sun., April 26.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Tippet. Mon., April 27.—CLAPHAM, St. Luke's-road, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. KENSINGTON, High-street (corner of King-street), Open-air Meeting, 7 p.m. Wed., April 29.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. The Rev. C. Baumgarten, "Justice and the Franchise from the Church Point of View," Miss Boyle, Chair. Mrs. Hyde, KENSINGTON TOWN HALL, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Miss Boyle and Miss Cicely Hamilton. Chair: Mrs. Mustard. Thurs., April 30.—HIGHBURY CORNER, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Bow, 37, Wellington-buildings, Branch Meeting, 7 p.m. Sun., May 3.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mrs. Mustard. Mon., May 4.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Ashdown on "Madame Curie." Admission free. CLAPHAM, St. Luke's-road, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Tues., May 5.—HIGH BARNET, Caravan "Send-off" Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Wed., May 6.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Speakers: Mr. George Lansbury, "The Religious Duty of Revolt," and others. Admission free. Thurs., May 7.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m. HIGHBURY CORNER, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Fri., May 8.—CROYDON, 32A, The Arcade, High-street, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. E. M. Moore. Sun., May 10.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mrs. Tanner. Mon., May 11.—CLAPHAM, St. Luke's-road, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Wed., May 13.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Mr. Laurence Housman and others. Admission free. Thurs., May 14.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. Fri., May 15.—AT HOME, Lady Barclay, 60, Nevcrn-square, Earl's Court, Mrs. Despard and Mr. Laurence Housman, 4 p.m. Sun., May 17.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mon., May 18.—LOWER HALL, High-street, Clapham, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Tanner. Chairman: Mrs. Hull. Wed., May 20.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Mrs. Baillie Weaver, "Militancy in the Home." Thurs., May 21.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. Sun., May 24.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Anna Munro. PROVINCES. Fri., April 24.—Eastleigh, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Leigh Rothwell. Sat., April 25.—Northam, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Leigh Rothwell. Chester, The People's Hall, Jumble Sale, 3 p.m. Admission 2d. Mon., April 27.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, Business Meeting, Burnage, 21, South-avenue, Branch Meeting. Liverpool, Walton, Women's Co-operative Guild Meeting. Miss Andrews, "Real Co-operation." April 29 and 30.—Middlesbrough, Victoria Hall, 7.45 p.m. Two Plays by Winifred M. Jones, "Noblesse Oblige" and "William the Conqueror." Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. Fri., May 1.—St. Helens, The Club Room, Pottery-street, Jumble Sale, 3 p.m. Mon., May 4.—Middlesbrough, President's Birthday Party. Mon., May 11.—Middlesbrough. Speaker: Miss L. Mahony. Speaker: "George Eliot's Women." SCOTLAND. Sat., April 25.—Paisley, Miss Eunice Murray. Glasgow, Open-air Meeting. Thurs., April 30.—Paisley, Branch Meeting in room of Central Hall (1 stair up). Paper by Mr. James Ingram. Sat., May 2.—Glasgow, Jumble Sale, 2.30 p.m. Mon., May 4.—Glasgow, Charing Cross Halls, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss C. Nina Boyle. Wed., May 6.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, "At Home," 7.30 p.m. Thurs., May 7.—Glasgow, Suffrage Shop, Branch Meeting, 8 p.m. Sat., May 9.—Glasgow, 184, Woodlands-road, Sale of Work, 3 p.m. (by kind permission of Miss Findlay). Tues., May 12.—Cardross, Geilston Hall, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle and Miss Eunice Murray. Chair: Rev. W. Maxwell, M.A. Thurs., May 14.—Helensburgh, Victoria (Pillar) Hall, Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Miss Eunice Murray. Fri., May 15.—Rothesay, Miss Nina Boyle and Miss Eunice Murray. Sat., May 16.—Rothesay, Open-air Meeting. Miss Boyle and Miss Murray. Edinburgh, Jumble Sale, 3 p.m. Sat., May 30.—Edinburgh, Summer Sale, 2.30 p.m.

"GHOSTS."—We call the attention of our readers to the private performance of Ibsen's play, Ghosts, organised by Mr. J. T. Grein, on behalf of the New Constitutional Suffrage Society, at the Royal Court Theatre, on Sunday, April 26, at 8 p.m. It is an opportunity which will be widely welcomed; the play deals with a serious aspect of woman's position through the double standard of morality still permitted. For particulars see advertisement on this page.

"VOTE" BRIGADE.

Will everybody who can spare time and who has not sold THE VOTE before in the streets commence now? Selling should not be difficult during this fine weather. A rally will be held at Headquarters on Friday, May 8, at 7.30 p.m.; new sellers will be warmly welcomed. If those who cannot attend will send their names and particulars of the time they can give, I shall be able to help them. Our Captain is away recruiting her health; we are anxious to show her a good increase both in the ranks of THE VOTE Brigade and in the sale of the paper.

To advertise "The Vote."—Attention of all members of the Freedom League is called to a special fund that is being raised to advertise THE VOTE in railway stations and other public places. As this is mainly supported by spare coppers, will all remember it, and drop their pennies into the box on my table in the large office at Headquarters whenever they come in?

P. LEAHY.

IN REGENT'S PARK.

In gorgeous weather the Mid-London Branch held its usual meeting in Regent's Park last Sunday morning. Miss Underwood explained clearly the objects of the W.F.L., and especially emphasized the police-court work undertaken. Mrs. Hyde was the other speaker. After the meeting two ladies told Mrs. Hyde of a case of which they knew, particulars in which a quite young child had been decoyed away by two women wearing nurses' uniform; after two days the child returned to her home in a terrible condition, having evidently been drugged. The case has been brought to Mr. McKenna's notice. It is another evidence of the necessity for passing the Nurses Registration Bill.

A PRIVATE PERFORMANCE OF "GHOSTS"

(Ibsen).

Organised by Mr. J. T. GREIN,

On Sunday, April 26, at 8 p.m.,

at the

ROYAL COURT THEATRE.

Mesdames BESSIE HATTON, DOROTHY DRAKE, Messieurs LEON QUARTERMAINE, J. FISHER WHITE, STASY AUMONIER.

Apply Ticket Secretary, New Constitutional Society, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.

The Women's Freedom League HOLDS PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CAXTON HALL Every Wednesday Afternoon, at 3.30.

APRIL 29th.

Speakers: MISS NINA BOYLE.

The REV. C. BAUMGARTEN:

"Justice and the Franchise from the Church Point of View."

Chair: MRS. HYDE.

ADMISSION FREE.

MAKE THE HOME BRIGHT by using William Clarke & Son's COAL.

- Silkstone 28/6 Best Household 27/- Special House 26/- Best Nuts 25/6 Roaster Nuts 24/- Large Kitchen 23/6 Coke 15/6 per Chaldron. Stove Coal 25/- Anthracite Nuts 40/-

341, Gray's Inn Rd., King's Cross, W.C. 'Phone 3656 North

A tempting offer MAPLETON'S

To anyone naming THE VOTE, and sending 3d. stamps, we will send post free 1 lb. sample of NUTTER, the finest cooking fat in the world, and a complete list of our preparations, with food tables and much useful information. MAPLETON'S, GARSTON, LIVERPOOL. NUT FOODS

JORDAN BROS., LADIES' TAILORS 139, NORTH END, CROYDON.

Phone: 245 P.O. Croydon. We have a Reputation for Style, Finish, and Moderate Prices.

ARTHUR'S STORES, 114 to 120, Westbourne Grove, W. FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS AND HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.

Our Motors deliver daily in the following neighbourhoods:—Hampstead, Golders Green, Hendon, Mill Hill, Garden City, Hampstead, Cannon's Park, Putney, Barnes, Kew and Bedford Park. Trial Earnestly Solicited.

SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-street, W.—Subscription, One Guinea. Wednesday, April 29, 8.30. "Experiences in Russia." MISS ROSIKA SCHWIMMER.

LITERARY.

PLAYS, DUOLOGUES, MONOLOGUES, dealing with all phases of the Woman's Movement, 3d. and 6d. For Drawing-rooms, Platforms or Stage purposes. Descriptive List (2d.) post-free on application.—ACTRESS' FRANCHISE LEAGUE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi.

JAEGER Fine Pure Wool

Comfort. Charm. Quality.

Jaeger was the Pioneer, and is still the Standard Health wear. It has never yet failed to justify the public confidence.

Illustrated list of Ladies', Men's & Children's garments post free on request.

LONDON JAEGER DEPOTS: 126, Regent St., W. 109, Kensington High St. 456, Strand, W.C. 118, Victoria St., S.W. 39, Sloane St., S.W. 88 & 86, Cheapside, E.C.

A Jaeger agent in every important town. Address sent on application.

BUSINESS, &c.

MRS. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A., recovers overpaid Income Tax, buys or sells Stocks and Shares, effects all kinds of Insurances or Annuities, mortgages, loans on reversions, or any business of a legal or financial nature.—Hampton House, 3, Kingsway. 'Phone, 6049 Central.

TRAINING.

VACANCY. PUPIL TRAINED in Private Office. All business subjects. Fees moderate.—C/o VOTE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi.

LAUNDRY.

THE NEW GROSVENOR LAUNDRY, 55, Stratford-road, South Acton, W., UNDERTAKE FAMILY WORK ONLY. Flannels washed in distilled water. Open-air drying-ground. Highest-class hand work at moderate prices. Telephone, 10 Chiswick.

Holland House Laundry, BURMESTER ROAD, LOWER TOOTING.

Mrs. PIPER, Proprietress. Telephone: Wimbledon 504. A FAMILY LAUNDRY, under Distinguished Patronage. MY PRICES ARE MODERATE. Customers of over 20 years' standing.

Islington Dental Surgery.

69, UPPER STREET, N. Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist, Mr. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon. Established 55 Years. Gas Administered Daily by qualified Medical Man, Fee 7/6. Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches. Send Post Card for Pamphlet. N.B.—No Show-case at door. CONSULTATION FREE. Tel. 3795 North

Cooper & Co.'s Stores, 68 to 74, Brompton Rd., London, S.W.

DEPARTMENTS. Teas and Coffees. Bakery. Confections. Hardware. Groceries. Fish. Patent Medicines. Stationery. Provisions. Meat. Perfumery, &c. Wines and Spirits. Cooked Meats. Fruit and Flowers. Brushes. Tobaccos, &c. Poultry and Game. Vegetables. Turnery. Coal, &c., &c.

WESTCLIFF.—"CANNONSLEIGH PENSION," 9, Westcliff-parade. Ideal position, top cliff, facing sea and bandstand. Near 2 stations and pier. Good tables. Terms from 25s. 6d. weekly; 5s. 6d. per day. Book early for Whitsuntide.

TO LET.

FLAT (Furnished) at W. Dulwich. Garden, cycle-shed. One kitchen-living-room, with inter-oven stove, 1 sitting-room, 3 bedrooms (1 small), bath. Piano, linen, plate. Service can be had on premises, also laundry. 20s. Or share with daughter, 7s. a week. Middle of May. Close motor 20 and 3.—Mrs. WALTERS, c/o THE VOTE.

VICTORIA.—ROOM (UNFURNISHED). Good address. Rent moderate.—Apply TYPEWRITING OFFICE, 306, Vauxhall Bridge-road.

DRESSMAKING.

MORA PUCKLE, 399, Oxford-street (opposite Times Book Club). MODERN ARTISTIC DRESS. Also Embroidered Djibbahs, Coats, and Skirts. (Entrance Gilbert-street.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

ATHENIC UNDERWEAR is made from the best materials, guaranteed unshrinkable and gives lasting wear. Write for Free Book and buy direct at first cost.—Dept. M. 8, ATHENIC MILLS, Hawick, Scotland.

BLUTHNER'S UPRIGHT GRAND PIANO. Perfect condition, fine tone. Exceptional bargain.—11, Parkhurst-road, Holloway.

BONELESS CORSETS.—New invention, B unbreakable. List free.—KNITTED CORSET CO., Nottingham.

SERVETTES, superior quality, all-linen Damask, slightly soiled; 22 inches square, 7s. 6d. per dozen; 22 inches, 7s. 9d. Postage 4d. extra. Illustrated Catalogue Free.—Write HURTON'S, 166, Lamee, Ireland.

SAFETY AT LAST!! Ask for "Veroid" non-inflammable Ladies' Fancy Combs, plain or jewelled. Recommended and Sold by HARROD'S STORES, Hairdressing and Haby Depts.

SELFRIDGE AND CO., LTD., Hairdressing Dept. DEBENHAM & FREEBORN (Fancy Department). In Scotland: P. S. F. TENSDER, 122, Princes-street, Edinburgh.

See that every article is stamped as this:—VEROID \* Non-inflammable, in a small circle. REFUSE ALL SIMILAR NAMES. For Shipping and Wholesale only: THE VEROID AND CO., 17, WELL STREET, LONDON, E.C.

64-PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS AND HOW TO USE THEM, free. Send for one.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond-road, Cardiff. Established 1879.

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

For insertion in the next week's issue, copy must be sent in by Monday morning to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

CHARGES:

- Change of Air: FIRST 15 words, 1s. Each additional 7 words, or part of 7 words, 6d. Boarding Houses and Pensions: Four consecutive insertions for the price of three, if prepaid. Houses and Flats: Professional: Ladies' Businesses and Partnerships: Exchange and Sale: Home Produce & Domestic Pets: Employment: Recommended Servants: Governesses, Companions, and Lady Helps: FIRST 15 words, 6d. Each additional 7 words, or part of 7 words, 6d.

BOARD-RESIDENCE.

Rooms, Holiday Homes, &c. AT THE STRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL, opposite Gaiety Theatre, Strand, London.—Absolute Privacy, Quietude, and Refinement.—Ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters. Sumptuous Bedroom with h. and c. water fitted, Breakfast, Bath, Attendance and Lights, from 6s. 6d. En pension, 9s. For long stays special terms. Finest English provisions.—MANAGERESS, 4788 Gerrard.

SUNNY SANDGATE (1 1/2 miles Fokestone). Constant motor service. BOARD-RESIDENCE from 25s. Care of children undertaken. Airy, comfortable house, facing sea. Bathroom, electric light. Good plain cooking.—6, Sunnyside, Sandgate.

THE ONLY PERFECT COFFEE MAKER IS THE "CAFFETA"

MAKES A USEFUL PRESENT.

Place water and coffee together, light the lamp, and WAIT FOR THE WHISTLE TO BLOW—THAT'S ALL.

- SIZE: 4 Cups: 15/6 6 Cups: 8 Cups: 21/- 25/- Plated or Copper. Obtainable from all the leading Stores and Silversmiths. In case of difficulty, write the Manufacturer: L. WIENER, Patent No. 9621/10. 1a, Fore Street, London.





ONE  
PENNY]

# THE VOTE

[WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.



## Special Offers for the Coming Week at Peter Robinson's Oxford Street

### SALE of Summer Blouses.

No. 1. Pretty French Muslin Blouse (as sketch), front fastening, hand-embroidered collar, long sleeves. Sizes 42 to 50. Special Sale Price 4/6

No. 2. Dainty Crepe de Chine Blouse, in ivory and all leading colours; yoke lined Jap. Silk. Special Sale Price 12/=

No. 4. Very stylish Blouse, in Broche Eolienne, in ivory and several pretty colours. Special Sale Price 15/=



### Dainty French Cambric NIGHTGOWNS at 6/- each.



Useful French Cambric Nightdress, trimmed torchon lace and embroidery insertion. Special Sale Price 6/=

Hand-made French Cambric Nightgown, square neck, front opening, trimmed valenciennes lace and ribbon beading to give Empire effect. Special Sale Price 6/=

Pretty Nightgown of French Cambric, trimmed valenciennes lace and small tucks, finished at neck and sleeves with new plain edge Embroidery. Special Sale Price 6/=

### SALE of Paris Silks.

600 Yards of Whipcord Silk Voile, in White, Champagne, Sky, Pink, Grey, Dark Brown, Navy and Black, 42 inches wide. Paris price 3f. 50c. yd. Our Sale Price 1/6

860 Yards of best quality French Foulards—two new, neat designs, in a splendid range of fashionable shades. 40 inches wide, Paris prices 5 & 6f. yd. Our Sale Price 2/=

1,200 Yards of All-Silk Bordered Radium, in most beautiful designs and colourings, suitable for smart afternoon and evening wear. 44 to 50 inches wide. Paris price 8f. yd. Our Sale Price 2/10

2,000 Yards of rich quality Silks, including soft Broché Satin in four different new designs, Dames Mousseline, rich Broché Repps, Broché Pointille, Printed Crepe and Shot Chiffon Taffetas; all wide width. Paris prices 10 to 14f. yd. Our Sale Price 4/10

## PETER ROBINSON Ld. Oxford Street

Peter Robinson, Ltd.



Printed for the Proprietors, THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., LTD., by W. SPEIGHT AND SONS, Fetter-lane, London, E.C.  
Editorial and Advertisement Offices, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.