

THE VOTE

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

VOL. II.—No. 29.

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

NOTICE.

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

Offices: 148, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom 6/6 per annum, post free.

Foreign Countries 8/8 " " " "

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

WHAT WE THINK.

The Late King.

In King Edward we have lost the ideal constitutional monarch—a man whose wisdom lay, not in engineering crises or creating obstructions, but in considering the peace of Europe as if that Continent had been a great home, with high-spirited children who needed tact and diplomacy and "heart-to-heart" talks to keep them from quarrelling. Even those who objected to constitutional monarchy on principle had no fault to find with him: "If a constitutional king was necessary, he was the man for the job" is perhaps the most whole-hearted eulogy a captious critic could have made. And those who desire a constitutional monarchy, and see in it the ideal State, found in King Edward the model for all future constitutional monarchs. He was the ideal king—sufficiently human to enter as an ordinary English gentleman into the life of the community, and by entering into it raise the standard of daily life; sufficiently statesmanlike to regard other nations as having the right to live, and yet sufficiently diplomatic to preserve the balance of power with a judicious tipping of the scales towards England. In his bestowal of orders he was cognisant—though to a limited extent—of the claims of women, and included in the small list of recipients of the Order of Merit Florence Nightingale and Madame Albani. He also bestowed several minor orders upon women. Universally regretted, he has died at a critical time, when his tact and shrewd wisdom were badly needed to steer the political ship out of its dangerous waters. His son comes to the throne to face constitutional difficulties which have never before arisen, and when his time of private grief shall have passed he will be called upon to face a situation which will make many demands upon his knowledge and appreciation of the duties of his great office. He has at least the sympathy of the women of the nation as well as that of the men with him, and they hope that the ship of the constitution will sail out of its shoals, and presently call at their port for supplies, for which receipts will not be refused.

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The Political Situation.

How far the political situation will be altered by the death of his Majesty is at present doubtful. To pass the Veto Resolutions at the present moment would seem to some indecent; but Mr. Redmond has completed his part of the bargain; he and his liegemen have voted for the Budget, and may press for the destruction of their hereditary enemies. In what way the matter of guarantees will be viewed by King George V. remains to be seen. Complications may arise—indeed, they are almost inevitable from the nature of the resolutions, which offer the same issue to those anxious for reform of the Upper House as the Minority and Majority Reports to those anxious for drastic alterations in the Poor Law. It is a strange fact, however, and one which to omen-seekers may seem of some importance, that the single chamber which was constituted in full, and could meet as a House to receive the sad news of his Majesty's death, was the House of Lords. The absence of the necessary official for swearing-in caused what was on that occasion the "other House" to wear a dismantled appearance.

Girls and Boys.

A great movement is at present on foot which aims at the glorification of the small boy. Incidentally, we are told, it will teach him truthfulness, chivalry, and patriotism. It is to be hoped that he will not have lost or forgotten these badly needed qualities by the time he arrives at manhood. In sending a subscription to the *Daily Telegraph* for funds for this Boy Scouts enterprise one woman remarks that she hopes the girl scouts will not be forgotten. We fear her hopes are founded on sand; there is no national interest in girls, and there will not be until a juster balance between the two sexes is reached. From his earliest youth—and the present movement is typical of this fact—the small boy is taught that his sex alone is of importance; he has taken the centre of the stage, and will keep it if he can. Curiously enough, the Girls' Patriotic League, which has recently been run into prominence—one of those associations which, like the Primrose League, endeavour to make women useful to the community from their tenderest years—states that it aims at "giving girls an opportunity of serving their country as effectively and as earnestly as their brothers and fathers"; but the way suggested is not, as in the Boy Scouts movement, by healthy recreations or those pleasant war make-believes which girls play just as well as boys; but by "excluding from their purchases anything that is not home-made." This means that women from their earliest years are to concentrate on encouraging trades in which their fellow-women suffer every possible industrial disadvantage and in which, where there are "plums," they are quietly appropriated by the male worker. The reward for being a good little British girl is so "priceless" that it seems hardly worth having.

University Electors.

A fly-sheet has been issued by a number of the male graduates of the University of London asking for signatures to a memorial to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition praying to have the restriction removed which now prevents women graduates from exercising the franchise. The *British Medical Journal*, in commenting, in a kindly way, upon the memorial, says the experiment would be interesting, as voting at a University election is public and not by ballot.

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President, Mrs. C. DESPARD.
HON. TREAS., Miss S. BENETT. HON. ORG. SEC., Mrs. T. BILLINGTON-GREIG. HON. SEC., Mrs. E. HOW MARTYN.

OUR WORK.

The Procession. OUR greatest interest in life must just now be to help in making the procession, which may have to be postponed for a short time, the greatest suffrage demonstration we have ever had. Organised by militants of every colour, with members marching from every part of the country, it will be quite the most wonderful thing that militants have yet done, and we are most anxious that none of our members shall hold aloof, but that W.F.L. contingents from all parts of the country shall come and help to make our section thoroughly representative. You must read very carefully all the suggestions made by our president (pages 32-33), and bear in mind also that we are incurring many expenses in getting ready pennons, bannerets, and in organisation. We need all the help we can get, both in money and workers. No one can afford to stand aside. Our open-air meetings on Sunday were postponed owing to the death of the King, but no other alteration has been made in our ordinary arrangements. "Forthcoming Events" should be carefully studied each week.

ON Thursday evening at the Queen's Hall we were at home to our kindly friends and champions the Men's League, and they added to our indebtedness to them by speaking for us on that occasion also. Mrs. Hicks took the chair, and introduced the speakers in happy vein. There were on the platform Mr. Herbert Jacobs, Mr. H. P. Chancellor, M.P., Mr. Goldfinch Bate, Mr. Joseph Clayton, and Mrs. Sproson. Mr. Chancellor explained the catholicity of his suffrage views, and observed that he worked in every way he could to support the suffrage societies, both militant and constitutional. Mr. Herbert Jacobs declared that they were all slaves until the suffrage came, for until such time as women were enfranchised they were all bound to give support to this reform, and the conferring of the franchise on women would set them free to do other work, and would also set the women free to devote their energies to their own reforms. The Men's League was composed of men of all shades of political opinion who worked amicably together for the cause. The result of this union of different parties on common ground seemed not unlikely to develop into another party which would be known as the Woman's Party. Mr. Goldfinch Bate, in the course of an exceedingly amusing speech, observed that women's tactics towards men in gaining their ends were now changed. They no longer begged, they demanded. Mr. Joseph Clayton, who has been chosen Women's Suffrage candidate for South Salford, Mr. Hilaire Belloc's constituency, observed that he was going to convert Mr. Belloc by turning him out. He went on to say that he thought the men who supported the woman's question made too many compromises. They talked of keeping the question "well to the front," but what was wanted was to have it finished. Sympathetic support might easily nurse a question to death, and there was always danger of such a league settling down to holding an annual meeting and an annual dinner. To even remain at the point they had reached they would need to keep pressing on. Any cessation of energy meant a falling back. He could not understand why men could think

themselves free while women were not. He thought it was not possible to see another election without the women having the vote. Mrs. Sproson made an interesting speech. Mr. Malcolm Mitchell (hon. secretary of the Men's League) wrote regretting that he could not speak on that occasion.

Pageant of Famous Women in Swansea. THE Pageant for which all the Swansea members have been working for so long was produced last Thursday at the Albert Hall, which was crowded with a most enthusiastic and interested audience. For days beforehand the newspapers had been publishing long interviews and photographs of the various groups, which latter by the night of the Pageant had been reproduced as postcards and had a very large sale. The programme opened with Miss Cicely Hamilton's Anti-Suffrage Wax-works, which were greatly appreciated—more particularly the "Suffragette." Then Mrs. Despard spoke for about twenty minutes with such intensity and eloquence that several of the audience have since declared their intention of forthwith joining the League. All readers of THE VOTE are familiar with the idea of the Pageant itself. Justice in shimmering gold was charming Miss Olive Terry, Prejudice was Mr. Talbot Homewood, and Miss Cicely Hamilton in blue and silver draperies spoke her own magnificent lines as "Woman." Miss Edith Craig had a fine reception when Rosa Bonheur stepped across the stage, and the entire audience paid its double tribute to Mrs. Despard and Florence Nightingale in one. The remainder of the cast were members of the local branch, who have reason to be proud of the splendid manner in which they impersonated the different heroines of history—to distinguish one would be to do injustice to the rest. As the procession left the stage beautiful bouquets in green, white, and gold flowers were presented to Mrs. Despard, Miss Hamilton, and Miss Craig. The Swansea Branch have reason to congratulate themselves on the Albert Hall Pageant as another on their list of successes. The whole performance created an enormous impression on the audience, and in face of it many opponents dropped their weapons and declared themselves on the side of woman's freedom.

Mrs. Holmes and Mrs. Amy Sanderson. Mrs. MARION HOLMES will be acting hon. secretary for the next few weeks in the place of Mrs. How Martyn, who is detained in Italy. Mrs. Amy Sanderson desires members and branch secretaries to note that she has been forbidden by her doctor to make any engagements for speaking for at least six months.

JOHN STUART MILL CELEBRATIONS.

On May 21st we have arranged a celebration to do honour to the memory of a great man who, against great odds, championed and promoted the cause of Woman's Suffrage. We want all our members and sympathisers to help make this event a great success, and remind those who still lag behind that this is not a new movement, but one that has had great champions in the past years.

A cortège of carriages and other vehicles will leave the W.F.L. offices at 12.45, passing through Adam Street (across Strand), Aldwych, Kingsway, New Oxford Street, Oxford Street, Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, Haymarket, Cockspur Street, Whitehall, and along the Embankment, to the statue in Temple Gardens, where the wreaths from branches, individual members of the W.F.L., from the Actresses' Franchise League, also from other Women's Societies and the Men's League for Women's Suffrage will be placed upon it. An open-air meeting will then be held, at which Mrs. Despard and Dr. Baillie Weaver will speak.

In the evening there will be a meeting at the Caxton

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Room for Meetings of the League can be had free on application.

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No Charge for Re-sitting.

Hall, Westminster, tickets for which are now on sale, prices 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s. John Stuart Mill was member for Westminster when he introduced his famous Bill for Women's Suffrage in the House. At this meeting representatives of every human activity will speak, including Mrs. Despard (chair), General Sir Alfred Turner (the Services), Mme. Aino Malmberg (Finland), Mrs. Ayres Purdie (Commerce), Mr. Kenneth Richmond (Education), Lala Lajput Raj (India), Mr. Frank Rutter (the Press), Dr. Baillie Weaver (Law), Mr. Walter Crane, R.W.S. (Art), and others.

Wreaths have already been promised by almost every branch of the W.F.L., as well as from Lady Cook, Mrs. Despard, Countess Russell, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Mrs. Snow, the Actresses' Franchise League, the Uxbridge Branch of the National Union of Suffrage Societies, the Men's League, the Scottish Centre, Eastbourne, &c. All those desirous of taking part are requested to send in their names at once, so that particulars as to decorating and number of carriage in the cortège may be forwarded. Wreaths should reach the W.F.L. offices not later than 10 a.m. on Saturday, 21st. For any further particulars applications should be made to Miss Sime Seruya, W.F.L. Offices, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

LADY COOK'S MEETING.

Considerable interest was aroused by the preliminary announcements of Lady Cook's meeting to deal with the question of the Revision of Morals, a question which has many links with the Suffrage problem. There was a large attendance at the Albert Hall on Friday night, and Lady Cook's address was heard with attention. Rev. Hugh Chapman, of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, was in the chair, and observed that the meeting had a novelty all its own; that the present condition of morals was a grave one, and that the gravity of the situation was heightened by the conspiracy of silence. Introducing the speakers, he described Lady Cook as the Lydia Becker of England, who for forty years of her life had been fighting the social evil; and of Mrs. Despard he said that her life of untiring zeal and complete disinterestedness had been an inspiration to many. The suffrage he regarded as full of hope; all real ethical advance had been engineered by women, and he welcomed the movement for the reforms it promised.

Lady Cook, in the course of her eloquent address, dealt with many phases of the social evil. Prostitution was not, she said, "a necessary evil but an unnecessary curse." Recently, in open court, it had been said that women were liars and perjurers; they wanted their sons to give them back their good names, to respect their mothers, and in doing so the daughters of other mothers,—and the man who respected his mother respected purity; they wanted to make their boys as pure as their girls; and they wanted them to learn the facts of life in a decent way, and not on the streets. They wanted to put a few decent men into Parliament who would see to the bringing in of laws dealing with moral

reforms. In the Suffrage movement she pinned much of her faith. In the Garden of Eden there was no inequality of treatment for the same offence, and Adam and Eve were both driven out of Paradise for eating of the forbidden fruit. It was only on earth there was inequality of punishment, and that was because men made the laws. But this would not be for long, and the women did not mean to stop until they got the vote. Mr. Mitra said that 2,500 years ago they had a Women's Property Act in India. He urged the women to stand together, and declared that this was necessary, since they could not make a nation moral by law. Mrs. Despard gave a brief address on the necessity of combating the social evil, and it was announced that a Justice for Women Association was in process of formation.

ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE MATINEE.

In addition to the splendid list of artists in our advertisement who will take part in the Actresses' Franchise League Matinée, organised by Miss Decima Moore, at the Grand Hall, Criterion Restaurant, on Tuesday afternoon, May 24th, at 2.30—unavoidably postponed (from the 10th) owing to the death of his Majesty the King—Miss Constance Collier will recite, Maud Hoffman and Laurence Leyton play a new duologue, and C. V. France and Eva Moore appear in a new play called "Unforeseen Circumstances," which will be played for the first time.

In addition to the tickets at £1 1s., 10s. 6d., and 5s., there will also be some at 2s. 6d., which can be obtained from the Criterion Restaurant, at the Suffrage Societies, and from the Hon. Sec., Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C. (telephone: City 1214).

Our members should give this splendid matinee their support.

Great interest is taken in the candidature for the Senate for Victoria of Miss Vida Goldstein, the well-known advocate of women's rights. She did well at her last essay for parliamentary honours, and is expected to win large support this time, if she does not actually achieve election.

Actresses' Franchise League

In aid of the Funds.

GRAND MATINEE MUSICALE

AT GRAND HALL, CRITERION RESTAURANT, On TUESDAY, MAY 24, at 2.30 p.m.

- ARTISTES—
- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| LENA ASHWELL | MARIE BREMA |
| MADAME ALICE ESTY | AIDA JENOURE |
| DECIMA MOORE | KATHLEN STARLING |
| FANNY WENTWORTH | FLORENCE CASTELLE |
| HELEN MAR | BERTHA MOORE |
| IRENE VANBRUGH | PERCY FRENCH |
| (Engagements permitting) | |
| CONSTANCE COLLIER | BEN WEBSTER |
| H. V. ESMOND | JAMES WELCH |
| MAUD HOFFMAN & LAURENCE LEYTON in a duologue. | |
| EVA MOORE and C. V. FRANCE in a New Play. | |

AT THE PIANO—Miss Theresa Beney, Mr. Leonard Calvert.
TICKETS—Stalls, £1 1s. & 10/6 (reserved), 5/- & 2/6 (unreserved)—can be obtained from Criterion Restaurant, at the Suffrage Societies, and from the Hon. Secretary, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C. Telephone—City 1214.

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Artistic Dress in Original Designs for all Occasions.

HAND EMBROIDERIES. CHARGES MODERATE.

Members and Friends of the League always welcome to inspect Models.

ESTIMATES, ETC., ON APPLICATION.



LOUISA THOMSON-PRICE.

To have lived and to live in stirring times and to be part of them, to have known intimately and spoken from the same platform as the great reformers of our century, to have the courage to voice unpopular views, and at the same time to carry on a busy professional life full of exactions and complexities and never to fail those who depend on one's public or one's professional exertions is a fine record for anyone, man or woman; and this is the record that Mrs. Thomson-Price has made during her working life, and one of which she is slow to speak. The daughter of a captain in the 2nd Life Guards (Blue), and belonging to a family whose records were unbrokenly orthodox and Tory, she developed her own education and intelligence on the lines that appealed to her most, and found herself presently a secularist and a Radical.

"For Charles Bradlaugh I have always had the most profound admiration," said Mrs. Thomson-Price. "When he was President of the National Secular Society I was one of its members, and spoke for that body many times.

Misunderstood and maligned as he was, he was a man of magnificent courage and of high and pure principles. His public life was passed in the defence of the oppressed. In the House of Commons he was known as the Member for India, and to that country he was always a staunch friend. He took part in the great Peace movement, lectured and wrote in support of the abolition of the death penalty, and other great humanitarian reforms. In spite of derision and abuse from a section of the public, he went on his way, always actuated by high motives and conscientious aims, and I felt it an honour to work, in however humble a way, with such an apostle of Freedom. My first husband, Mr. John Samson, was on the executive Council of the N.S.S. I have often spoken at open-air meetings for the National Secular Society when it was necessary for a

strong body of stalwarts to form a cordon round the platforms. Suffragists are not the only reformers who have had to gradually win a hearing.

"And when John Burns came out of the prison to which he had been sentenced as a result of claiming the right of free speech in Trafalgar Square, I was one of those who assembled to welcome him. It is strange to think that the John Burns of to-day, who would deny us free speech, was the same man who desired it sufficiently for the working men of England that he was not afraid to suffer for it."

"You worked for the Women's Liberal Federation for some time?"

"Yes, I was one of their official lecturers about twenty years ago, and it may be of interest to you to read this cutting."

THE STRAND DISINFECTANT & DRUGGIST SUNDRIES CO.

156, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Send P.O. for 2/6 and we send you by return 1 gallon of our Special "Eltho" Pine or Tar Fluid. It is true economy to spend a little on disinfectant and preserve health.



[Photo, Lena Connell, 50, Grove End Road.
MRS. THOMSON-PRICE.

Mrs. Thomson-Price opened a book of cuttings at one descriptive of a meeting at which she spoke on suffrage in 1891, and where "Mr. Haldane, Q.C., M.P.," was also on the platform. The present War Minister would appear to have been a confirmed suffragist at the time, for we find him reported as saying that:

"What had induced him to throw himself with what energy he possessed into the question of the position of women was a conviction that until they extended the franchise to women they would never succeed in raising the status of female labour and secure for women the same share in the produce of industry as had fallen to the lot of men in recent years. He believed the extension of political power to the working classes had had more to do with the organisation of labour than any other fact in the economic history of the country, and what was true of men must be true also of women." Mr. Haldane has eaten some of his words since.

"I was for several years secretary of the N. Hackney Women's Liberal and Radical Association," continued Mrs. Thomson-Price, "and I was also a member of the old constitutional society for obtaining the franchise; but I left the latter because I believed that the time had come for new departures. There has been a slump in constitutional methods since Gladstone betrayed the Liberal women in 1884, when in the Bill to extend the franchise he refused to accept the amendment to include women as voters on the same terms as men. He declared that it would 'sink the ship,' and to avoid any catastrophe to himself he threw the women overboard.

"My professional work? It has been very varied. I have been a journalist for twenty-four years, and in the early part of it I did a good deal of political writing—at the time an unusual occupation for a woman—on the *Liberal and Radical*, and I also did cartoons for the *Political World* and other papers.

The humorous cartoons which Mrs. Thomson-Price has done for us will be remembered. They were for several months a popular feature in *THE VOTE*, that of "Little Jack Horner" having been by special request transformed into a poster during the General Election. She was editor and part proprietor of a weekly paper for women and was also one of the first contributors to *Ariel*, Mr. Israel Zangwill's paper. She has done illustrated articles for the *Daily Mail*, articles on finance for financial papers, and is at present on the editorial staff of three well-known weekly papers, besides being consultant editor of *THE VOTE* and a frequent contributor of interesting matter to its columns. Mrs. Thomson-Price is also a director of an accident insurance company and of the Minerva Pub-

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lishing Company. She is also a member of Council of the Society of Women Journalists and of the Journalists' Advisory Board of the Lyceum Club.

"Do I approve of militancy? Most certainly I do, and I was glad to be one of those who picketed the House of Commons—one of the most effective militant protests which have been made since the militant movement began. During our long wait we learned a good deal of human nature. Like the House itself and the Abbey close by, the "waiting women" were one of the "sights" of London to the country cousin and the stranger. On the whole we met with much sympathy during that trying time, and some of it came from the most unexpected quarters. An old couple, obviously working folk, halted in front of me one afternoon, and the old gentleman took off his hat to me. 'We be with you, ma'am,' he said. 'We be Lancashire fowk,' as if their locality proclaimed their faith, as indeed it did."

Boundless energy, an unshaken belief in humanity, a great optimism, a profound knowledge of the questions of the day, and a rare intuition with regard to the "chosen people and the chosen causes" are perhaps the most distinguishing characteristics of the most delightful of colleagues, whose career—to describe it fully—would require a volume of "our organ."

M. O. K.

SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow Office: 302, SAUCHIEHALL STREET, GLASGOW.

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. JULIA WOOD.

Office Secretary: Miss KINBY.

Telegrams: "Tactics," Glasgow. Nat. Telephone: 495 Douglas.

Glasgow.

Miss Marguerite Sidley writes:—"On Sunday the meeting at the University Students' Settlement was a large and enthusiastic one. Several members of the audience expressed the hope that we would return next session, and tell them more about Votes for Women.

Our open-air meetings have been exceptionally good this week, large, attentive audiences proving their good-will by giving generously to the collections.

Owing to the death of the King our Saturday meeting at Clydebank was abandoned. Will members please note that there will be no meeting on the day of the King's funeral.

DRAWING-ROOM MEETING AT POLLOKSHIELDS.—On Thursday afternoon Mrs. MacTaggart's drawing-room was crowded with ladies who had come to hear something about Votes for Women from the militant suffragist's point of view. Our hostess made a graceful little speech from the chair, and I addressed the meeting, dealing principally with the necessity for militant methods. At the close ten new members were enrolled, while other ladies who could not join a militant society expressed their intention of joining the West of Scotland Society for Woman's Suffrage rather than remain outside the movement. A box was placed in the hall for contributions, and ladies generously responded. A fair amount of literature was sold, Lady McLaren's "Woman's Charter" proving popular. Our best thanks are due to Mrs. MacTaggart for giving us this opportunity of getting into touch with ladies in Pollokshields.—MARGUERITE A. SIDLEY.

SPEAKERS' CLASS.—A Speakers' Class is being held once a week at The Centre; for day and hour see list of meetings. All members who are willing to speak will be welcome. The subject for Friday, the 20th, will be "The Economic Aspect of Woman's Suffrage," and members are requested to study that question and to come prepared to make a ten-minute speech on it.

£ 1000 FUND.		£ s. d.	
Miss Chalmers	0 10 6	Miss Dickie	1 0 0
Mrs. McCall	0 10 0		
Miss Anderson, Pollokshields	1 1 0	Amount previously acknowledged	4 13 6
Miss B. Semple	1 4 0		
Miss McKinnon	0 8 0	Total	£296 13 10

Edinburgh.—33, Forrest Road.

Though our Shop will not be formally opened till May 14th, we are now in possession, and this week for the first time held our afternoon "At Home" in our own premises. An excellent attendance showed the interest taken by members and friends in this venture, and in a satisfactory collection this interest expressed itself in tangible form. Miss Sara Munro, President of the Branch, took the chair, and Miss A. B. Jack gave an inspiring address on the pioneer whose name we are honouring this month—John Stuart Mill. Mill's straightforward methods in electioneering, in particular, were contrasted with those of the ordinary Liberal candidate of to-day, as represented by Mr. Lyell in the recent bye-election.

We are gradually getting the Shop into order, and Miss Turner is working indefatigably towards that end. Further gifts towards furnishing, &c., have been received from Mrs. Bell, Mrs. Johnstone, Miss Scott, and Miss McNeillie. To-day (Sat-

London Corset Co.

28, NEW BOND STREET, W.

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Elegant Corset in White Coutille, with Real Whalebone, Guaranteed Low in Bust and Long over Hips.

17/11

Suspenders, 2/6 per pair extra.

THE WEAR OF ALL CORSETS GUARANTEED.
Corsets sent on approval upon receipt of satisfactory reference.

day) we have done quite a brisk trade in badges with the small girls and boys of the neighbourhood, whose attitude a few days ago was anything but friendly. Please send us goods for the Cake and Candy and Jumble Sales. They will be gratefully accepted at any time.

SHOP AND ORGANISER FUND.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Previously acknowledged	4 4 6	Mrs. Melrose	0 1 0
Mrs. MacLeod Easton	0 3 6	Miss Dorothy Turner	0 2 6
Miss Leggatt	0 10 0	Mrs. Wilson	0 12 0
Miss Mary McMillan	0 2 6		
		Total	£5 16 0

HELEN McLACHLAN, Assist. Sec.

INFANT MORTALITY.

In the course of an excellent leader in *The Nursing Times* on the Women's Charter the writer treats of those clauses of special interest to nurses and midwives. With reference to the tacit recognition by the State that marriage vows are less binding upon the husband than upon the wife the writer says:—"The urgent need for reform in this direction must surely be recognised by nurses, who of their own knowledge are well aware of the grave and terrible physical dangers and perils brought upon innocent wives and their helpless children through the accepted laxity of the moral standard as applied to men. And we know, too, though it is a fact seldom mentioned when infant mortality is the theme (the mother's ignorance is usually urged as the cause), that a large proportion of the deaths of infants under a year old is attributable to inherited specific disease."

Mme. Marguerite Durand during her electioneering took full advantage of the recent decision in Paris that a male idiot is allowed to vote. She procured such an example of an enfranchised male for platform purposes. He understood nothing, and smiled at everything. Mme. Durand's electoral device aroused, as was to be expected, a storm of censure. But if a man of this description is an object of pity on a platform, how much the more ought he to be one at the ballot-box.

THE VOTE.

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SATURDAY, MAY 14, 1910.

A CALVARY OF WOMANHOOD.

"With aching hands and bleeding feet
 We dig and heap, lay stone on stone;
 We bear the burden and the heat
 Of the long day, and wish 'twere done.
 Not till the hours of light return
 All we have built do we discern."

Our cause moves on silently, though to the lovers of sensationalism and to some youthful and ardent spirits we seem to be marking time.

Those of us who are gardeners have gone day by day this spring to watch our struggling plants. The earth looks hard and black and barren, then one sunny morning the shoots of Solomon's seal and lilies of the valley show themselves above the dead soil, vigorous little curled heads are rearing themselves above the brown fronds of last year's ferns, little white lumps show themselves on the black rose-stalks; all through the bleak months the miracle of growth has been going on, silent, invisible. So it is with our Cause, and these weeks, which to some have seemed dull and barren, have been a time of growth and germination.

"If only you behave yourselves you will get the vote."

We have "behaved"; politicians will have to score that to our credit, and to their own dishonour if their side of the bargain is not kept.

From all over the country come reports of large, orderly meetings and sympathetic audiences—no "wild scenes," no orchestral accompaniments, no rats, no mice.

Those of us who have toiled so hardly the last four years are beginning to reap the harvest of our labours—the secretaries and organisers, working in dull routine unnoticed and unappreciated; the street-sellers, chalkers, and sandwich paraders, mocked and insulted; the speakers, with aching throats and hoarse voices, too often the target for filth both verbal and material; the prisoners of hope, giving up health and liberty in the felon's cell.

Those of us who shared the great watch before the House of Commons will never forget all our life long the tortures of standing—the scorching sun, the cold rain and bitter winds, the aching backs, the throbbing temples, the internal cramps and pain, the torment of the long night watches. They are lucky who will not carry all their lives some scars of the ordeal. All these things have been a Calvary of womanhood that it seems incredible England should have permitted to continue. And men have suffered, too. No one, I think, has fully realised the horrors of anxiety and suspense endured by the relatives of those in gaol, knowing that their mothers and wives and sisters and sweethearts were gasping in airless cells—should even thieves and murderers be deprived of air?—or tortured and suffocated with stomach-pumps.

And yet for every great cause someone must endure "the spitting and the scorn"; mankind is ever timid and terrified at the new. Stoning and death have ever been the portion of the Prophet and the Reformer; they crucified Christ, they poisoned Socrates, they burned Savonarola and Joan of Arc. In spite of popular education and high civilisation, mankind and those in authority remain stupid, brutal, and cruel.

"Never mind, my dear," said an old woman to me after an open-air meeting, which had ended in missile-hurling and wild tumult, "they will listen some day. They used to serve us of the Army like that once, but all that is changed now," and putting back her white hair, she showed me a jagged scar just above the temple. "I was struck unconscious, but one of our Captains identified the man and he was summoned, but the magistrate dis-

missed the case. They always did dismiss our cases once."

The magistrates, so rarely on the side of the angels, always condoned brutality, and the Salvation Army for years lived in the same atmosphere of assault and litigation as we do, with an anti-suffrage society in the shape of an organised Skeleton Army to harass them, until in 1882 the Archbishop of Canterbury rose in the House to protest against the brutality allowed against men and women who were fighting the battle of the Lord.

No one stonies the Salvation Army now, and the Skeleton Army is in the limbo of dead evil things.

Compulsory vaccination was only suspended when half the town of Leicester and hundreds of men all over the country had been in gaol; and those women who ventured to cycle before the great craze of 1896 remember the fury their presence created in the streets—the mobbing, the spitting, the foul abuse. No one spits at women cyclists now; there would hardly be time.

In view of the treatment of women struggling for freedom there seems a certain want of logic in the writings of the Liberal Press. One great organ of Liberalism lately talked about "armed revolt as the only alternative" should the will of Liberals not prevail, and the *Westminster Gazette*, commenting on the peacefulness of the Anti-Veto campaign, says: "The fact that there has been no violence or disorder should be a matter for satisfaction. We think it is a very important point, and we commend it to the defenders of the peers. Formerly, when the great mass of the people were voteless they had to do something violent in order to show what they felt; to-day the elector's ballot is his ballot."

The great mass of the people are still voteless. If they again renew those sad scenes of violence and disorder which have lately disgraced England the Liberal Press has apologised for them.

There is bitter irony in the fact that England has only abuse, gaol, and stomach-pumps for her daughters struggling for justice; praise and glory for men only, or for foreign countries—Russia, Finland, Turkey, Persia.

Mr. Asquith, Liberal Prime Minister, addressing the Young Turks at the Guildhall, was surely a spectacle illogical enough to make angels weep, when in a burst of patriotic pride he told them "they had come at last to the very centre and capital and citadel of liberty," and all the time the women lay in Holloway Gaol because they also had dared to ask for their political freedom.

From all cant and hypocrisy, good Lord deliver us!

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

LADY BETTY BALFOUR'S IDEAL.

Commenting on the difference between the Eve of Milton and the Madonna of the future lined out by Tennyson, Lady Betty Balfour writes in the *Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Review*:—"As I think of the two ideals of womanhood, two statues come before my mind which seem plastically to represent them. The Eve ideal is well set forth in the Venus of Medici; a shrinking beauty, delicately made, easily crushed, appealing to tenderness and pity. The other ideal is expressed in the statue in our British Museum of Demeter, the great Earth Goddess, with her eyes serenely set to the making of a fruitful and thriving world. No weakness about her, no fear, no surrender, no pettiness; loving and forgiving, because all-understanding—a worthy companion to her fellow man. It is to this ideal that I, for my part, give my allegiance; and it is because I believe that those who are working for the political freedom of woman, as others have worked for her educational and industrial freedom, are helping to bring it about, that I am standing by their side."

"Five thousand British mothers, on an average, annually laid down their lives in child-birth. It was not done amid the shouts and the glory and the noise of battle. It was done quietly and ingloriously, but the women did not shrink from it, and that should count."—MRS. PHILIP SNOWDEN.



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BRANCH NOTES.

Sheffield.—32, Dover Road

The first open-air meeting of the season was held at the Hills-bro' Tramway Terminus on Monday evening, May 2nd. Mr. R. H. Minshall, a member of the Fabian Society, took the chair. The crowd was very small and isolated at first, but by degrees it grew and welded itself together, till at question-time it was a solid mass—a distinctly interested and sympathetic mass, too. The Branch members attended in considerable force. Miss Manning, from Manchester, was to have spoken, but was prevented by family bereavement. Her place was taken by Miss G. Clarke, one of the members, who gave an excellent address, and when questions were invited answered several times with pertinent skill and tact. The Chairman also spoke again with acceptance when Miss Clarke had finished. All the copies of THE VOTE on hand were sold and a very fair collection taken. Altogether the meeting was a decided success.—S. G. B.

Herne Hill and Norwood.—32, Geneva Road, Brixton.

At the meeting in Brockwell Park on Sunday, May 1st, the speakers were Mrs. Chapin and Miss Elsie Chapin. Mrs. Chapin said women wanted the vote so that they might be on an equality with men. It was a sad and unjust position that the conditions of employment should be so much harder for working women than for men and that their work was not as well paid as the work of men. Miss Chapin gave an interesting account of our paper THE VOTE, and advised every member of the audience to purchase a copy. At the close of the meeting several questions were asked. One gentleman enquired of the speaker whether she had ever heard a "sane, sensible, and rational" objection to our demand for the Suffrage, and Mrs. Chapin replied that she had not. A good number of copies of THE VOTE were sold, and we shall be grateful to members who will help us to sell the paper at these meetings. At the next meeting on Sunday, May 15th, the speaker will be Mrs. Marion Holmes; chair, Dr. Alice Vickery. The meeting will be held from 3 to 5 p.m.—B. SPENCER, Hon. Secretary.

Manchester (Central Branch).—9, Albert Square.

The weather and circumstances have all been unkind to the Stockport Campaign this week. On Monday the police refused to let us hold our meeting at the spot we proposed, on the ground of "too much traffic." They suggested another spot, but unfortunately it was well out of the way of the public. So we

took our bills and went on to distribute them and to chalk Tuesday's meeting, but alas! on Tuesday and Thursday and Friday it rained pitilessly and incessantly, and, though speakers and helpers valiantly turned out, there was no chance of gaining an audience. So the week has passed with only one meeting, held on Wednesday, at which I spoke. There was a good audience, which listened attentively, but was not to be won to ask questions. We arranged meetings for Monday and Tuesday, but the sad and unexpected news of Saturday morning has altered all our plans. It would naturally be impossible to hold any public meetings until after the burial of the King, and so we have cancelled all our arrangements.

There will be a meeting of the Branch on Thursday, May 12th, when we shall make preparations to reopen the Campaign immediately after the Whitsuntide holiday. In Whit-week, as is well known, in the North no business will be done. Manchester and the district takes a general holiday, and nearly all our members will be away. The work must be resumed with extra vigour after the enforced pause.—M. I. NEAL, President.

Central Branch.—1, Robert Street, Adelphi.

The Central Branch have arranged to have a new banner for the Procession, which some of the members are going to work and Miss Tucker has in charge. A special collection was taken towards this at the meeting on May 4th amounting to 10s. It was also agreed to send £2 10s. towards the Procession Fund, and several members undertook to be responsible for one dozen pennons each for the decorations. The Branch are to take two dozen copies of THE VOTE each week. The open-air meetings are doing well in Regent's Park, and Mrs. Tanner is holding a meeting each Monday evening at Kennington on behalf of the Branch. Next meeting, Wednesday, May 18th, there will be a lecture on "Co-education," when we hope to have a large attendance. Commencing with June 6th, our fortnightly meetings will be on the first and third Monday in each month.—M. E. T.

West Sussex.—Easebourne Vicarage, Midhurst.

The West Sussex Branch has sustained a great loss in the death of Mrs. Cummin, wife of the Rev. J. K. Cummin, Vicar of Easebourne, and mother of the Hon. Secretary and Treasurer of the Branch. It is not too much to say that the formation of this Branch was mainly due to the great interest which Mrs. Cummin took in the question of Woman's Suffrage from the time the caravan with Miss Matters in charge visited Midhurst. During the time the Branch has been in existence she has been a source of inspiration and encouragement. Notwithstanding her innumerable parochial duties and varied interests, heavy domestic trials of prolonged sickness and bereavement, and her own failing health, which she bravely disguised until a few months before her death, her interest and enthusiasm for the cause of woman's freedom never flagged, and in spite of heavy and countless demands upon her substance she gave generously at all times for this Cause. Her gift to the Branch of a velvet banner will be one of its most cherished possessions. Those who were privileged to be personally acquainted with her will feel the loss of a true woman, a good friend, and a strong and valuable comrade, and the sympathy of all members of the League will go out to her bereaved husband and daughters.—A. N. R.

Croydon.—9, Morland Avenue.

The Croydon Branch held their monthly Committee meeting on May 3rd, when the great Procession arranged for May 28th was discussed, and arrangements made for drawing-room meetings. On Wednesday, May 4th, the open-air meeting was held at South Norwood Clock. Unfortunately our speaker, Mrs. Manson, was ill, and could not come, but Miss E. Fennings most kindly filled up the gap, and, although very tired, spoke at some length, and kept the listeners very interested. Owing to the damp and cold the crowd was small, but a fair collection was taken, and literature, including THE VOTE, was sold.—E. T.

Stockton-on-Teess.

On Wednesday, May 4th, we held a meeting in the Friends' Meeting House at 7.30. Owing to there being a fair in the town the meeting was not well attended. However, Mrs. Schofield-Coates gave an exceedingly good address, after which an interesting discussion took place. Stockton is a stronghold of the adult Suffragists, and a good number of them attended the meeting.—E. CRESSY, Organiser.

COMPETITION FOR RECEIPTS.

Owing to the interest taken in last month's competitions, and as the advertising is the mainstay of the paper, we have decided to encourage the keeping of receipts for goods bought from advertisers by our readers by continuing our offer of monthly prizes for the largest number sent in.

(1) The first prize for the largest number of receipts will be 10s., or two fully-paid-up shares in the Minerva Publishing Co.

(2) The second, for the largest total amount spent, will be 6s. 6d., or a year's subscription to THE VOTE, post free.

Entries for the first competition must be sent in before Saturday, June 4th. The result will be announced in the issue dated June 11th.

When dealing with advertisers mention THE VOTE.

THE PROCESSION.

(There is some question as to the date being changed, but any alteration must not interfere with our work.)

Preparations for the procession on Saturday, May 28th, of which notice has been given in THE VOTE, being now in full swing, we are appealing for help of various kinds from our members, for we, who love the League, are keenly anxious that it should bear itself bravely. I myself desire that every individual member of the Women's Freedom League shall feel her responsibility. If we could only act as though the success of this demonstration depended upon the amount of work and enthusiasm we are able, each one of us, to throw into it, there could be no doubt on this point.

Let us remember how critical is this moment in the history of our movement. A false step now, an even apparent slackening of effort, will inevitably throw us back, and years may have to pass before we recover the lost ground. May this demonstration, in its numbers, beauty, and order, ring out a triumphant answer to those who say that our agitation is confined to a small and reckless body of women.

OUR CONTINGENT.

As to details. It is arranged that I, as president, shall lead, and I am naturally anxious that our contingent shall be worthy of its place in this great pageant. I trust that numerous members not only from London, but from the provincial, Scottish, and Welsh branches, all bringing their banners, will join us. I shall be in Ireland between the 22nd and 27th inst., and I shall hope to persuade some of our friends there to march with us.

SECTIONS.

There will be a variety of sections. Mrs. How Martyn, in cap and gown, will lead the doctors, professors, and graduates. Nurses, in uniform (many of whom took part in our picketing last year), will have a section of their own. Our prisoners, each bringing her own special banner, will form another, and we hope every one of them will be present. The pharmacists, I hear, have applied for a banner, which promises to be attractive. Other sections will, no doubt, be arranged. Notice of them will be given later.

To give an additional brightness and unity to our march the organisers hope that very many of our processionists will wear white, with the regalia of the Women's Freedom League, which can be had (price 2s.) at our office.

APPEALS.

Miss Seruya, our procession secretary, who, with a few helpers as enthusiastic as herself, is working gallantly against difficulties, makes certain appeals. She makes them urgently. She goes so far as to say that unless she is given what she asks she cannot guarantee success.

MONEY first for the general expenses fund. We would point out to those who like everything about us but our tactics that, in contributing to the fund, they will have an admirable opportunity of showing their love for the cause without in any sense committing themselves to approval of militancy. To our ranks all Suffragists and lovers of freedom are welcome; but to bring them together and to make suitable arrangements for their march money is necessary. Help us, therefore, by sending money for our general expenses fund.

HOSPITALITY next. We hope that many will pour in from the country. Surely it will be our duty not only as fellow-members, but also as sisters and friends, to provide for their comfort while they are in London. I am sure that to many it will be not only a duty, but a true pleasure. I hear that offers of hospitality have already been received, and for these we are grateful, but many more are wanted. I beg that kindly householders will let us know, with as little delay as possible, what they can do. For those who cannot personally help in this, a Hospitality Fund has been opened.

DECORATIONS. This appeal comes from another strenuous worker, and one to whom the members of the Women's Freedom League are much indebted. Under

the leadership of Miss Edith Craig, who, our readers will be glad to know, is in command of the contingent, Miss Tucker is arranging the scheme of decoration, which, again, will cost money. Everything is being done on the most economical scale, as the workers are voluntary, and the Suffrage Atelier are carrying the scheme through; but materials are needed, and for this purpose, that we may suit all purses, a 1s. Decoration Fund has been started. Will those who can contribute to this? Those who can do a little more would like, I am sure, to provide the cost of a dozen of the pretty pennons, which, we hope, many of our processionists will carry (cost 4s. 3d. the dozen).

VOLUNTEERS. This perhaps is the most urgent of all the appeals. Workers are urgently needed by Miss Craig, Miss Seruya, and Miss Tucker as organisers, to canvass, to arrange for out-of-door meetings in the suburbs, to speak, to call on sympathisers, to distribute handbills, to sell procession numbers of THE VOTE, and to chalk the pavements.

In the OFFICE to do pen-work.

In the SUFFRAGE ATELIER, to help in cutting-out, sewing, stencilling—where it is possible to relieve the workers by taking work home and arranging for it to be done there. I entreat that those who can spare time and strength to help in any of these directions will at once come to the office, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, or send in their names to Miss Tucker.

BRANCH WORK. Branch secretaries are begged to work up their own districts. Open-air meetings have been started in many places; until the end of May let each one of these be a special procession meeting. Let opportunity be taken at these meetings to enrol marchers.

ARRANGEMENTS UP TO DATE.

As—so at least we understand—the Albert Hall will not have space enough to accommodate all, both of processionists and the general public who will wish to be present at the meeting to follow the procession, Mrs. Manson, our Social Organiser, has arranged for overflow meetings to be held in both halls of Kensington Town Hall, to which we shall march from the Albert Hall. The tickets will be 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s. Some seats for women only will be free. We strongly advise our members to book their seats at once. For it is anticipated that in consequence of the great crowds in the streets other overflow meetings will have to be held. We hope to arrange for tea or light refreshments to be served, at a small charge, in Kensington Town Hall. The meetings, which will begin probably about 4.30 p.m., will be conducted by myself and Mrs. How Martyn. The list of speakers is not yet complete, but we hope it will include Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Manson, Miss Benett, and Mrs. Sproson.

TRAVELLING.

Arrangements are being made by the N.W.S.P.U. for special trains at reduced rates, and these will be available for all the societies sending contingents. Where, however, such arrangements have not been made, parties of twelve or more can obtain special terms from the railway companies.

FINALLY.

For the sake of our great cause, which is nothing less than woman's freedom, and as representative of the League which has done and dared such great things in its name, I entreat you, each one, my friends, fellow-members, and sympathisers to show *now*, before it is too late, that of which you are capable. It is an old story that many hands make light work. As a fact, it is not light work on an easy job that the officers, organisers, and committee of the Women's Freedom League ask, it is a light heart, it is that upspringing of joyous confidence which says: "My friends are with me; they are ready not only for work, but also for sacrifice. Therefore, I cannot fail."

By your work, by your monetary assistance, by your

generous hospitality, give us this and it is perfectly certain that the force of our gratitude and joy will be such that it will carry us on to a glorious success.

THE PROCESSION OFFICERS.

Leader, Mrs. DESPARD.
Leader of University Section, Mrs. HOW MARTYN, A.R.C.S., B.Sc.
General Director, Miss EDITH CRAIG.
Indoor Meetings, Mrs. MANSON.
Outdoor Meetings, Miss SIME SERUYA.
Decorations, Miss TUCKER.
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Ireland, Miss COYLE.
Wales, Mrs. CLEEVEES.
Yorkshire, Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES.
N.-W. England, Miss MANNING, B.A.
Portsmouth, Miss BREMNER.
Scotland, Miss SIDLEY.
C. DESPARD.

WOMAN'S PLACE IN ANCIENT INDIA.

When one comes to compare the position of women to-day with that of the ancient Hindu woman, then assuredly one must arrive at the conclusion that our civilisation is only a civilisation in name. In ancient Vedic times in India woman had far greater privileges, or, rather, rights, than she possesses to-day. We, the superior people, looking back upon the dim vista of all those thousands of years, think of our swarthy brethren as heathen idolators, "bowing down to wood and stone"; but those who have studied the subject are fully aware that these so-called uncivilised heathens were in many ways in advance of the modern "superior" people, especially with regard to the treatment of woman.

Many of the women in those times travelled much in search of knowledge, discussed public matters with the men sages, being evidently quite the intellectual equals of men—as, indeed, generally speaking, they are at present. They performed religious acts publicly in company with men and attended the public festivals. In some cases, if they happened to be wives of Brahmanas and the husbands were absent from home, they even took charge of the disciples who were studying at the Brahmanas' feet, and taught them during their absence.

The daughters of kings were not coerced into iniquitous marriages with their blood relations (which only tends to impoverish the progeny), but were often allowed to choose their own husbands.

The ancient Hindus realised perfectly well that woman's place was in the home, nevertheless it was clear to them that she was not thereby prevented from occasionally leaving it to take part in public affairs.

Listen to a bridal hymn from the Rig Veda, and notice how the tables are turned on many modern ideas:

"Over thy husband's father and thy husband's mother bear full sway.

Over the sister of thy lord, over his brothers, rule supreme."*

In this same hymn we may read a verse which shows us that the home duties of the woman were by no means lost sight of:

"Go to the house to be the household's mistress, and speak as lady to the gathered people."

"Happy be thou and prosper with thy children here; be vigilant to thy household in this home."

We see, then that woman's position in those times was far superior to that which she now holds. Although, as we have seen, her domestic duties were not forgotten, yet

*Rig Veda, Book X. Hymn 85. (Griffith.)



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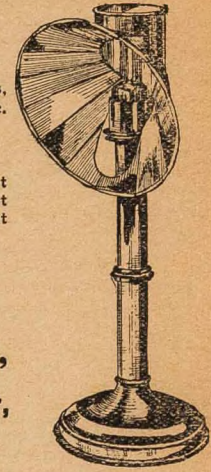
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was she entitled to take part in public life, "husband and wife with one accord" performing the sacrificial acts. In philosophic discussions with men woman took her part exceedingly well, showing in some instances superior knowledge and asking questions on cosmology, &c., to which the male sage was hard put to find answers.

Gradually, as the race began to deteriorate, so the position of women changed throughout the East until upon the advent of the Moslems and Jews she became a mere chattel, a slave by day and a wife by night.

To-day the pious Jehud prays, "Blessed art Thou O Lord our God, who has not made me a woman." To which the woman is taught to reply, "Blessed art Thou, O Lord our God, who hath made me according to His will."

The modern woman must not be cast down, for the day of freedom is nearer than she thinks. A heavy Karma, as Theosophists would say, is in store for man. This century is to be the woman's century. *Floreat Femina.*

L. A. BOSMAN.

101 POINTS IN FAVOUR OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

These points will cover the legal, social, and economic grounds on which women demand the vote, and will call attention to the glaring inconsistencies which demand a change in the present condition of the franchise.

19.—The fact that those who administer the law to women are in many respects better than the laws they administer is no reason why women should be governed by man-made law which is biased in favour of the sex that made it.

Because men in general do not inflict nor women suffer all the misery which could be inflicted and suffered if the full power of tyranny with which the man is legally invested were acted on, the defenders of the existing form of the institution think that all its iniquity is justified, and that any complaint is merely quarrelling with the evil which is the price paid for every good.

JOHN STUART MILL.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage held the first meeting of May Missions on Tuesday, May 10th, at Essex Hall.

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SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS.

Portsmouth.—128, St. Augustine Road, Southsea. Organiser, MISS EDITH BREMNER.

Our Monday meeting in the Town Hall Square was again a great success, and we hope to continue them throughout the summer. On Wednesday we again visited Gosport, and Mrs. Whetton most kindly took the whole weight of the meeting upon herself. She was listened to with a quiet earnestness that gave us great hopes for the future of the Cause in Gosport. Our members and sympathisers in that district have specially asked for an indoor meeting, and we are therefore arranging one for Tuesday evening at the Co-operative Hall. On Friday we went into the Kingston district, and in spite of a bitter wind Mrs. Whetton drew a large and deeply interested audience.

Somewhat of a sensation was caused by my asking a question of Lord Charles Beresford at a meeting of the National Service League. I had been selling THE VOTE outside and went in to the meeting after it had begun. Lord Charles invited me on to the platform to point out on a leaflet the matter I wanted cleared up. Being there I felt compelled to ask another question. A lady had informed me at the door that she belonged to the A.S.S. I asked the Chairman could he explain any sensible reason for ladies who, by their own confession, were "debarred by nature and opportunity from understanding anything about Imperial matters" coming to that meeting. He couldn't!

A special train is to be run from Portsmouth for the Procession on May 28th. It leaves at 7.45, and the fare is 4s. return. Members and sympathisers who wish to join with the Freedom League under Mrs. Despard's leadership, please send names to me as soon as possible.—EDITH A. BREMNER.

Ireland.—23, Orchard Street, Londonderry. Organiser, MISS K. J. COYLE.

The staple industry in Derry is shirt-making, and the main body of the factory employees are women. Like many other towns where the majority of the wage-earners are women there exists a huge body of irregularly-employed working men. It is something to be proud of that these men and women are waking quickly to the realisation that the enfranchisement of women would ultimately adjust and protect their common industrial interests. The men are speedily accepting the truth that labour is not specially provided for them under local conditions because greater dividends can be drawn from the unprotected labour of women. The opposition cry of a few weeks ago, "We don't want 'Votes for Women,' we want work for the men," has died into ominous silence. Our open-air work during the past week has been handicapped by bitter wintry weather. Nevertheless, four well-attended meetings have been held. Preparations for Mrs. Despard's visit are going ahead.

A very successful meeting was held in the Café Hall, Coleraine, at which Miss Gough presided. An impression was made by the speaker's statement that "the Suffrage Movement could be made the basis of an alliance between Irishwomen of opposed creeds and politics, which would modify religious and party bitterness in future and establish the true interests of the country." Three new members were gained, and offers of service for the working up of a meeting for Mrs. Despard were generously given. Volunteers also came forward with promises to work up Portstewart and Portrush (two adjacent towns) for the same meeting. There was a general feeling of enthusiasm evinced towards Mrs. Despard's visit, and everyone bought VOTES or pamphlets. An interesting item about the place of meeting is the fact that the Criterion Café and Hall at Coleraine, a spacious building, was erected at a cost of £3000 and presented to the inhabitants by Miss Rankin, a local lady.

Drawing Blood.

Mr. Lyell (Liberal), who has just been returned for South Edinburgh, has at length answered Miss Jack's letter, in a way which does more credit to his subtlety than to his principles. In effect he declined to go into detail, and only answered one question, and it was as to the nature of the "majority" of women desiring the vote which would satisfy him. He says practically all adult women. Mr. Lyell would seem to be hard to satisfy, yet in his thanks to the effectors and workers he gives his gratitude for the help they have accorded him, to the Women's Liberal Federation, and other women workers. This "grateful" gentleman knows that words are cheap, and until women leave off assisting any member, whatsoever his party, at election times they will get plenty of this kind of gratitude. "Fair words butter no parsnips."

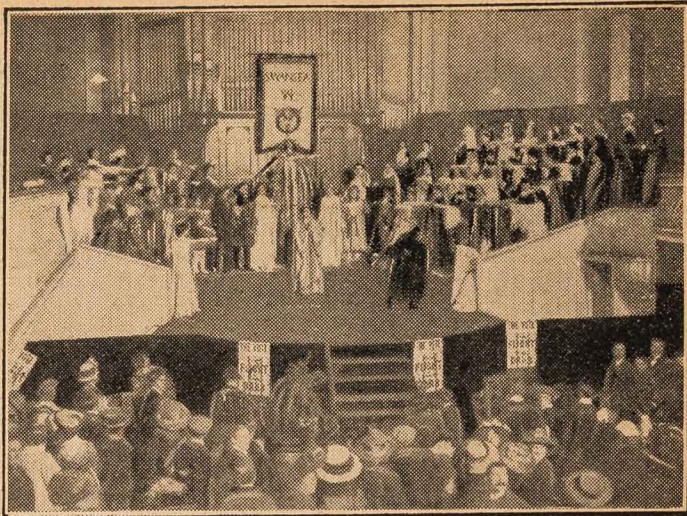
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No Hospital or Hotel Contracts taken.



SWANSEA PAGEANT (see page 26).

HINTS TO NEW SPEAKERS.

The following excellent and amusing hints were given to the Editor by a very convincing speaker, who has desired that her identity be concealed under a pseudonym. They are worth cutting out and keeping.

What Not To Do.

DON'T create a wrong atmosphere at the start by mentioning uncomplimentary happenings.

Ours is a grand cause; there are grand women in it, and grand men. Say so.

DON'T saw the air; if you make a gesture, make an effective one; use the whole arm.

Stand still.

DON'T squeak.

Listening to a high-pitched voice out of doors is deadly tiring to hearers, and ruinous to a speaker's throat.

DON'T hurry; give the non-agile brains time to "take in" your dicta.

What To Do.

Always remember for the time being you are an actress. Your object is to make a good effect.

Put on your hat smartly, and pay attention to the minor details of your appearance.

Study hard; have your facts at your tongue's end.

Take the chair several times; make short speeches before embarking on a long harangue.

Be sparing of "scoring off" an "anti" questioner.

Remember, your smart reply amuses the crowd but makes an enemy.

Aim at three things in replying to questions, viz., readiness, clearness, and brevity.

Refuse to reply to irrelevant queries. Let your audience disperse still wishing for more.

Finally, lose your way, your badge—anything but your head.

"MOLLY MALONE."

Mourning.

William Barker, whose advertisement will be found on our second page of the cover, makes, and has made for many years, a speciality of black wear. Those of our members who desire to do honour to his Majesty's memory can find all they require at the fine premises in the Borough High-street, S.E.

COALS Stove Cobbles...18/6 Large Kitchen...19/6
Roaster Nuts...20/- Special House...23/-
CAREFULLY SCREENED. Best Household 24/- Silkstone.....25/6

William CLARKE & SON,

341, Gray's Inn Road, King's Cross, W.C.

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GENTLE DENTAL TREATMENT

A REVOLUTION IN DENTISTRY BY THE USE OF ELECTRICITY. Messrs. PITTAR BROS. have opened the largest dental chambers in Great Britain, fitted with the most modern electrical appliances to reduce pain, appliances not to be found elsewhere in the kingdom. WE INVITE YOU TO CONSULT US. You will be treated with every courtesy and will not be urged, or expected, to favour us with your patronage unless you are convinced we can serve you better than any others.

EXTRACTIONS.—We claim to have the greatest secret in the world, and will FORFEIT £5 IF THE SLIGHTEST PAIN BE FELT. Our Mr. Pittar performed 12,500 extractions last year, and in no single case was the slightest pain experienced. Two Lady Nurses always in attendance for ladies and children.

PITTAR BROS., Walter House (right opposite "The Tivoli")
Corner of BEDFORD STREET, STRAND, W.C.

OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Women's Suffrage Propaganda League.

Mrs. Kineton Parkes spoke on "Resistance to Taxation" at the weekly "At Home" of the Hastings and St. Leonards Women Suffrage Propaganda League, May 2nd, and met with a hearty reception. Two ladies sent up their names as members of the Tax Resistance League, while others promised to "think it over," offering meanwhile to support the movement with their sympathy in the practical form of a subscription. The local Press has shown great interest in this latest form of protest on the part of women. The meeting has been reported at length in several local papers, and even appeared in a sensational form on the posters.

Mrs. Parkes, who was supported by Mrs. MacMunn, Mrs. Darent Harrison, Miss Stewart, Lieut.-Col. Savile, and others, was highly satisfied with the results of the first public meeting held on behalf of the new League, of which she is secretary.

New Union for Men and Women.

On Sunday last the New Union for Men and Women to obtain Woman's Suffrage, which has been holding large meetings in Hyde Park every Sunday since Easter, had their flag on the van in the Park at half-mast, draped with black, and the announcement:—"In consequence of the death of our most popular King, and as a mark of respect, no meeting will be held to-day."—W. WILSON HORN, Chairman.

The Actresses' Franchise League.

The "At Home" given by the Actresses' Franchise League at the Criterion Restaurant on Friday, May 6th, was particularly well attended and the speeches marked by great enthusiasm.

Mrs. Cecil Raleigh fulfilled the duties of hostess, Madame Alice Esty was in the chair, and the speakers included Mrs. Philip Snowden, Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Dr. Stanton Coit, and Mr. Roy Horniman. Dr. Stanton Coit, in a forcible argument, showed that the contempt of man for the opposite sex is the basic reason for the present position of woman, and cited an astounding passage from a recent publication by a learned writer in support of his assertions.

Mrs. Snowden dwelt on the difficulty of compressing into a succinct reply the immensely broad issue embodied in the question "Why do women want the vote?" the specific aim and object of the movement, she said, was the desire to improve the conditions of the State, conditions which were obviously a survival of the period when woman was regarded by man as "property" wholly and solely. Mr. Roy Horniman exposed the fallacy of "the man in the street's" objections to the granting of the suffrage to women, and Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett provoked continuous ripples of laughter by her plain speaking and witty remarks.

Miss Maud Hoffman, as treasurer, appealed for funds, with the effect of substantially increasing the treasury of the League. On May 4th "How the Vote was Won" was repeated at Battersea Town Hall, with a cast that included Miss Adeline Bourne, Miss Margaret Bussé, Miss Marienne Caldwell, and Miss Netta Powys.—INEZ BENSUSAN, 8, Lansdowne Road, W.

N.W.S.P.U.

On Monday of last week, at the Scala Theatre, the Rev. Hugh Chapman, of the Chapel Royal, Savoy, gave a most inspiring address, appealing to the Church to help in the Suffrage movement, because it was for the uplifting of the whole of mankind.

Self-Denial Week is just over, and in a hundred different ways the members have been making special efforts to add to the campaign funds.

Ignorance, superstition, ecclesiasticism, militarism, Mrs. Grundy and St. Paul have combined somewhat to blight feminine ambition.—MARY JOHNSON.

OUR TREASURY.

Amount previously acknowledged	£ 2465 5 7	Sargent, Florence, Mrs.	5 0 0
Broad, Miss M.	0 10 0	Drawing-room Meeting (Collection)	0 8 0
Cobden-Sanderson, Mrs. A.	1 0 0	Despard, per Mrs.	10 0 0
Snow, Mrs. J. E.	2 2 0	Allan, Esq., J.	2 2 0
Harbord, Mrs.	0 2 6	Schofield, Coates, per Mrs.	2 2 0
Despard, Mrs. C.	6 0 0	Miss Clark	1 6 2
Russell, Mrs. J.	0 10 6	Schofield, Coates, Mrs.	1 11 10
Serrys, Miss S.	1 0 0	Collections	0 4 0
Cope, Mrs.	1 0 0	C. T. O., per Miss Vincent	0 5 4
Jewson, Esq., W. H.	1 1 0	C. T. O., per Miss Vincent	0 8 3
Eaton, Miss P.	0 4 3	Leysen, per Miss	2 3 6
Fox Bourne, Mrs. E. D.	5 0 0	Collection	3 0 0
Hankinson, Miss M.	1 1 0	Tickets	0 17 0
Harvey, Miss C.	0 11 7	Neilans, per Miss	3 0 0
Neilans, Miss A.	2 0 0	Anonymous	0 1 0
Holiday, Mr. H.	1 1 0	Tickets	0 1 0
Lee, Miss C.	0 16 10	Manning, per Miss	0 1 0
Sidley, Mrs. L.	1 5 0	Manning, Mrs.	0 1 0
Elderton, Miss L.	0 1 0	Manning, Miss	0 1 0
Larkcom, Jacobs, Mrs.	1 0 0	Scott, Miss E.	0 19 3
Coates, Miss M.	0 7 6	Collections	1 0 0
Guppenheim, Mrs.	1 0 0	Coyle, per Miss (Ireland)	1 0 0
Holmes, Miss A. E.	0 5 0	Anonymous	0 2 0
Witcomb, Miss A.	0 1 6	Megarry, Miss	0 2 0
Clayton, Miss M.	0 1 0	Steyne, Mr.	0 3 0
Arklay, Mrs. (Collected)	0 3 0	Alvery, Mr.	0 5 0
Greenhow, Miss	0 1 0	Members' subscriptions	0 5 0
Bail, Miss J.	0 10 0	Longbridge, Miss	0 1 0
Witcomb, Miss A.	0 1 6	Caldwell, Miss	0 1 0
Bevan, Mrs. M. S.	3 0 0	Woods, Miss	0 1 0
Connell, Miss D.	0 3 0	Gough, Miss E.	0 1 0
Urmston Branch (Aff'n Fee)	0 5 0	Tickets	2 11 2
Henderson, Mr. J.	0 1 0	Collections	0 13 2
Stewart, Miss	0 1 0	Seruya, per Miss	0 16 4
Dixon, Mrs. and Miss	0 3 0	Collection	6 7 10
Dyer, Miss H.	0 10 0	Snow, per Mrs. J. E.	9 15 4
Kühler, Mrs.	0 1 0	Vote sales	4 16 0
Lawson, Miss C. E.	0 2 6	Collections	0 1 6
Gentry, Miss A.	0 1 0	Tickets	0 1 6
Leggatt, Miss S.	0 1 0	Goods sold	0 1 6
Hampstead Branch	0 10 0	Pennants for the Procession on May 14th, per	0 4 3
Bisdee, Miss	0 5 0	Miss Tucker	0 4 3
Arnold, Miss F.	0 1 0	Thomas, Mrs. M. E.	0 4 3
Arnold, Miss E. J.	0 1 0	Snow, Mrs.	0 4 3
Baker, Miss N.	0 5 0	Despard, Mrs.	0 4 3
Scruby, Miss	0 2 0	Hicks, Mrs.	0 4 3
Perth Branch (Leaflets)	0 4 6	Benett, Miss S.	0 4 3
Dixon, Miss A.	0 2 6	Tritton, Mrs.	0 4 3
Dick, Miss A. M.	0 2 6	Law, Miss	0 1 3
Jenkinson, Miss F. L.	0 5 0	Law, Miss	0 1 0
"Sympathiser," per Miss	0 1 0	Spencer, Miss D.	0 1 0
Jenkinson	0 1 0	Kelley, Miss	0 1 0
Manson, per Mrs.	0 10 0	Leysen, Miss	0 1 0
Wilks, Dr.	0 10 0		
Harley Withers, Mrs.	1 0 0	Total	£2557 15 8

EDITOR'S NOTE.—A large amount of matter, including some of our regular features, has had to be held over, owing to pressure on our space.

"Shall Women Vote?"

All should read this interesting article in the May "CHATTER," just published. Price 1d.; by post 1½d. "CHATTER," 29, New Bridge Street, London, E.C. Wholesale Newsagents: BRETT, Pilgrim Street, E.C.

WOMAN!

Teeth may not make a woman, but they go a long way towards it. It gives you the right appearance. We are in business to make women equal as far as their teeth are concerned. Good or poor teeth can make or mar your appearance. Favour us with a visit; we can fit you with any shape or colour of teeth you desire.

Sets of Teeth £1, £2, £3, £5.
Single Teeth 2/6, 5/-, 7/6 each.

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TRANSFORMATIONS AND FRINGES A SPÉCIALITÉ.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

LONDON.



DARE TO BE FREE.

- WED., MAY 11TH.—Brondesbury Road, Kilburn, 7 p.m. Miss Munro.
Kilburn Police Station, 8.15 p.m. Miss Munro.
- THURS., MAY 12TH.—No "At Home."
London Branches Council, 1, Robert Street, 6.45.
Edgware Road, near Tube Station, 3.30 p.m. Miss Munro.
Gillingham, Kent, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Manson.
- FRI., MAY 13TH.—Miss Baenziger "At Home" at 134, Portsdown Road, 3.30 to 5.30. Speaker, Miss Munro.
Prince of Wales, Harrow Road, 7.30 p.m. Miss Munro.
- FRI., MAY 13TH.—Speakers' Class.
- SUN., MAY 15TH.—Regent's Park, 12.
Finsbury Park, 11.30. Miss Munro.
Brockwell Park, 3 p.m. Mrs. Marion Holmes, Dr. Alice Vickery.
- WED., MAY 18TH.—1, Robert Street, 8 p.m. Mr. John Russell, M.A.
Sydenham. Rev. A. E. Green's, The Vicarage, Champion Crescent, 3.30. Mrs. Despard, Rev. C. Hinscliff.
Morland Road, Addiscombe, 8 p.m. Speaker, Miss Neilans.
Central Branch, 7.30. Lecture, "Co-Education," 8.15.
- THURS., MAY 19TH.—Caxton Hall, 3 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Rev. Hugh Chapman.
- FRI., MAY 20TH.—Harrow, 3 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson.
- SAT., MAY 21ST.—Public Meeting, Lecture Room, Battersea Free Library, Lavender Hill, 8 p.m. Miss Hicks, M.A.
John Stuart Mill Celebrations. Cortège and Wreath-laying, 12.45-2. Mrs. Despard. (See Special Bills.)
Caxton Hall, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Dr. Baillie Weaver, General Sir Alfred Turner.
- MON., MAY 23RD.—Crystal Palace, Tram Terminus, 7.30. Miss Ethel Fennings and Mr. Victor Duval.
- THURS., MAY 26TH.—Queen's Hall, 3 p.m.
- FRI., MAY 27TH.—Holloway. Miss Bissett Smith's, 57, Hill-marton Road, 7.30. Miss Benett and Miss Guttridge.
- SAT., MAY 28TH.—Women's Procession. Public Meetings, 4.30. Kensington Town Hall. Speeches.
- MON., JUNE 6TH.—Central Branch, 7.30.
Mrs. Despard, when in London, is at the office on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, and will be pleased to see members of the League who wish to consult her.
Workers welcomed at Miss Connell's Studio, 50, Grove End Road, N.W.

THE PROVINCES.

- WED., MAY 11TH.—Cosham, Portsmouth.
Northallerton. Town Hall. Mrs. Schofield Coates.
- THURS., MAY 12TH.—Sunderland (Debate), Mrs. Schofield Coates.
- SUN., MAY 15TH.—Stonebridge. Labour Church, 7 p.m. Mrs. Sproson.
- WED., MAY 25TH.—West Hartlepool. Mrs. Schofield Coates.
- MON., MAY 30TH.—Sheffield. Open-air Meeting. Mr. J. H. Bingham.
- TUES., MAY 31ST.—Felixstowe. Hamilton Hall. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Vulliamy.
- WED., JUNE 1ST.—Stowmarket. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Vulliamy.

SCOTLAND.

- Glasgow.**
- WED., MAY 11TH.—Central and Hillhead Branch.—Suffrage Centre, 302, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. Business Meeting, 8 p.m.
- THURS., MAY 12TH.—Bridgeton Cross, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley and Miss Shennan.
- FRI., MAY 13TH.—Shawlands Cross, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- SAT., MAY 14TH.—Rutherglen. The Fountain, 3.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- SUN., MAY 15TH.—Head of the Muir, Bonnybridge, 3 p.m. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- TUES., MAY 17TH.—Kilmarnock. Laigh Kirk Corner, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- WED., MAY 18TH.—Springburn. Vulcan Street, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- THURS., MAY 19TH.—Rothesay. Pier-head, 3 and 5.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- FRI., MAY 20TH.—Speakers' Class, The Centre, 6.30.
- SAT., MAY 21ST.—Peel Street, Partick, 3.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- MON., MAY 23RD.—Ibrox. Havelock Street, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- TUES., MAY 24TH.—Alexandra Park Gates, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- WED., MAY 25TH.—Speakers' Class, The Centre, 6 p.m.
- THURS., MAY 26TH.—Queen's Park Gates, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- FRI., MAY 27TH.—Excursion to London for Procession.
- Edinburgh.**
- SAT., MAY 14TH.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest Road. Formal Opening. Cake and Candy Sale, 3 p.m. Evening Meeting, 7.30 p.m.

TUES., MAY 17TH.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest Road. "At Home," 4 to 6 p.m.

IRELAND.

- Derry.**
- FRI., MAY 13TH.—Tillie and Henderson's Factory, 6 p.m.
- SAT., MAY 14TH.—Rosemount, 1 p.m.,
Diamond, 8 p.m.
- MON., MAY 16TH.—Star Factory, 1 p.m.
Diamond, 8.45 p.m.
- TUES., MAY 17TH.—Welch, Margetson, and Co.'s Factory, 1 p.m.
Diamond, 8.45 p.m.
- WED., MAY 18TH.—Ebrington, 6 p.m.
Diamond, 8.45 p.m.
- THURS., MAY 19TH.—Carlisle Square, 1 p.m.
- FRI., MAY 21ST.—Diamond, 8.15 p.m.
- TUES., MAY 24TH.—MRS. DESPARD, St. Columb's Hall, 3 p.m.
- WED., MAY 25TH.—MRS. DESPARD, St. Columb's Hall, 8 p.m.
- Strabane.**
- THURS., MAY 19TH.—Town Hall Square, 8 p.m.
- FRI., MAY 20TH.—Town Hall Square, 8 p.m.
- MON., MAY 23RD.—MRS. DESPARD, Town Hall, 8 p.m.
- Coleraine.**
- WED., MAY 25TH.—Town Hall Square, 1 p.m.
MRS. DESPARD, Café Hall, 2.45 p.m.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MANCHESTER Branch Meeting, Thursdays, 7.30 p.m., at 9, Albert Square (Office of Women's Trades Union Council).

CLAPHAM BRANCH.—Drawing-room Meeting, Mrs. Yates', 45, Bolingbroke Grove, Wandsworth Common, May 11th, 3 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Despard. Public Meeting, May 21st, 8 p.m., in Lecture Room, Battersea Library, Lavender Hill. Speaker, Miss Hicks, M.A.

"THE VOTE" DIRECTORY.

(For Addresses see Advertisements.)

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|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Amusements. | Hosiery. |
| Actresses' Matinée, May 24. | Bon Marché (Sheffield) |
| Black Wear. | Insurance. |
| William Barker, Borough | The Vote Coupon |
| Blouses. | Jeweller. |
| Debenham and Freebody | A. Darkin |
| F. W. Barber | Lamps. |
| B. Poulton | Aladdin's Palace |
| Business Advice. | Laundries. |
| Mrs. Ayres Purdie | The Beaconsfield |
| Coals. | Literature. |
| William Clarke | The White Slave Traffic |
| Corsets. | "Shall Women Vote?" |
| London Corset Co. | Milliners. |
| Dairy Produce. | Debenham and Freebody |
| Chandos Dairy | Poulton and Co. |
| Dentists. | William Barker, Borough |
| Chodwick Brown | Opticians. |
| Howard Bennett | F. W. Dadd |
| People's Teeth Association | Ostrich Feathers. |
| Pittar Bros. | Ostrich Feather Emporium |
| Depilatory. | Perfumery. |
| Adams' Delphine | Madame Alice Cross |
| Hairemovine | Photography. |
| Disinfectant. | F. Lawson Taylor |
| Strand Disinfectant | John Emberson |
| Dress. | Picture-Framer. |
| Debenham and Freebody | Henry Murcott |
| Maud Barham | Printing. |
| William Barker, Borough | Minerva Publishing Co. |
| Miss Folkard | The William Morris Press |
| H. Johnson | Waghorn and Co. |
| Dry-Cleaning. | Spring Cleaning. |
| Chambers and Co. | Army and Navy Cleaning Company |
| Fancy Costumes. | Stationery. |
| Madam Steer | Minerva Publishing Co. |
| Grocery. | Tea Rooms. |
| A. S. Gilbert and Co. | The Chandos Dairy |
| Hair-Dressing. | Toilet Requisites. |
| J. Riek. | Llewelyns' Cuticle Fluid |
| Hair Tonic. | Madame Alice Cross |
| Nonsheddo | Tonic. |
| Home Pets. | Neu Vitae Crème Tonic |
| The Aviaries | |

"The corruption of our society requires not shut doors and windows, but light and air; and it is exactly because pure, prosperous women choose to ignore vice that miserable women suffer wrong by it everywhere."—ELIZABETH BARRETT BROWNING.