

THE VOTE,  
June 5, 1914.  
ONE PENNY.

**WOMAN & FREEDOM. E. M. MOORE.**

# THE VOTE

**THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.**

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FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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## OUR POINT OF VIEW.

### God Save the King!

We note with great amusement and some interest that their Majesties have decided not to give any large garden-parties this year, either at Buckingham Palace or at Windsor, and not to grace with their presence any functions in aid of charities until they can be "guaranteed" against Suffrage disturbances. This is fired off by one or two of the daily Press organs—notably one of the Sunday papers—as if it were a great slap in the face for the Suffragettes; but really, that is rather a childish way of looking at the matter. The Suffragettes will hardly miss the rather rare opportunities for demonstration afforded them by their Majesties' outings; but Society—the one with the capital S—and the tradespeople that cater for its functions, will stagger under the blow. Really, it almost seems as if their Majesties knew; and were hinting to the public, in the most delicate manner in the world, "As long as you tolerate injustice, you shall share the unpleasantness and take your part of the suffering." Certainly, they could not have done anything that would please Suffragettes better!

### A Man's Honour.

We hope Sir Edward Carson is gratified with his reception in Belfast last Saturday. His gangs of militant women and "loyal" men, whom he has worked up to frenzy point against "government without consent" for themselves, set upon the women who have the same right as he has to resist laws they do not consent to, and to create disorder; and a shameful scene ensued, in which Mrs. Baker and Miss Gladys Evans were atrociously handled. No arrests were made, and no paper has expressed any horror of these filthy assaults. The women and men who committed them or who looked on while they were committed are not denounced as wild women or shrieking viragos, or a disgrace to their sex; they belong to a *men's* political organisation, to gain something for men, and any outrages they may commit are condoned beforehand. It is only when the something to be gained is something for women that outrage becomes unpardonable. This episode will leave a blot on Sir Edward Carson's escutcheon that time will deepen rather than wipe out; and the Women's Freedom League will note, with particular interest, that the same moment was chosen for mobbing and baiting helpless women—only strong in their claim for justice—and for charring Lord Londonderry. It was Lord Londonderry who distinguished himself in the Unionist anti-Home Rule procession, when he rode at the poster-paraders and incited his gangs of hooligans to break their boards and banners, and treat them with insult and violence.

### The Spread of Defiance.

The Roman Catholics of Preston, in defiance of the refusal of the Chief Constable to sanction their action, had a procession through the streets carrying a statuette of the Madonna and Child. Objection had been raised beforehand, and disorder took place. The Guild of St. Wilfred, responsible for the procession, denied that the Chief Constable had the right to forbid their parade; and the Chief Constable and his men, mounted and foot, had to turn out in large numbers to control the huge and disorderly crowds of rival Catholics and Protestants. *None of the Catholics were arrested.* What would have happened to Suffragists who defied the Chief Constable? One law for men and another for women.

### Where is the Women's Vote?

The following is taken from *News of the World* :—

Montreal is at present greatly agitated over the question of the licensing of the cabarets in the city. The moralist section of the citizens have fiercely resented the granting of any new licences to the night houses at all, and have even threatened to storm and close them by force. Strong approval was expressed at the action of the Licence Commissioners in refusing the licences, and excitement ran high when the

cabaret owners appealed over the heads of the Commissioners to Judge Charbonneau. The judge sustained their objection, and ordered licences to be issued to the majority of the cabarets which had been refused. The Commissioners declined to obey, and the whole matter is now left to the Court of Appeal. Meantime the cabarets are keeping open and doing business as usual. Run on Continental Lines, they are nearly all situated in St. Catherine-street East, which is the continuation of the chief shopping street in the city, and are frankly and openly a rendezvous for the "underworld." One of the officers of the Juvenile Court, when he heard of the renewal of the cabaret licences, exclaimed, "That means the deliberate holocaust of hundreds of girls for the next year." This statement is of special interest to English people in view of the many girls from the Old Country who from loneliness, or lack of money or experience, and weak character, go wrong when they arrive in Canada. In no place on earth is the temptation to go wrong so strong as in one of these night cabarets. Girls of the semi-educated and weak-willed type so frequently sent to Canada to do domestic work often have this fate. The cabarets remain open all night. Sometimes about three a.m. the floors are cleared for dancing, and, on alternate nights, there is singing and music, the young singing girls dancing from table to table. Enormous prices are charged for food and drink. The cabarets seem to enjoy a charmed life, for they are practically never raided.

The women of Montreal must be wishing they had the same power as their sisters in California.

### Protection!

In 1913, at the end of the session and in a hurry, the Lords put through a little bill and passed it into law, to prevent the exploitation of young girls abroad for so-called theatrical purposes. There was the usual chorus of praise and admiration for the men who were so good as to grant some measure of protection against the wickedness of their own sex; but if one may judge by the case just tried at Manchester, it would appear that the Act embodies all the worst features of former masculine efforts at this sort of legislation. A girl of 15 had been engaged to go abroad "for purposes of performing for profit" without previous application for a licence having been made at Bow-street. The case was the first brought under the Act, and was not pressed severely, it being intended to call the attention of the theatrical profession to the Act and its provisions. So far, so good. Now comes the postscript.

"The defendant," says *The Sunday Chronicle*, "told Mr. Brierley (the stipendiary) that he had a perfect defence and could have called witnesses (had the case been proceeded with). The girl in question had stated that she was over sixteen years of age."

Here is another of these pernicious loopholes for the escape of persons who may find sanction for criminal acts provided only they can swear that a girl said she was over sixteen! Apparently, then, these contracts are to be allowed in all their vileness, at the expense of inexperienced girls once they are sixteen; and the men and women who may snare and tempt them into hideous situations are to go free, like the perpetrator of the criminal assault, if only they can assert with sufficient assurance or corroboration that a girl "said" she was over sixteen! No onus of finding out more definitely what the girl's age really is appears to be placed on these people—another example of the grudging way men mete out legal protection to the women whom they will not allow to protect themselves.

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## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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## THE WOMEN'S REMINDER OF MAGNA CHARTA.

1215-1915.

The Women's Freedom League is organising a grand commemoration, in June, 1915, of the seven hundredth anniversary of the signing of Magna Charta. All who are interested are invited to communicate with the Secretary, Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London.

## OUR PRESIDENT.

Readers will be glad to know that the improvement in Mrs. Despard's health steadily continues. During the past week Miss Underwood and several members of the N.E.C. have been allowed the pleasure of brief interviews with her, and have been delighted to find her in good spirits. She is taking a lively interest in the work of the League, and finds keen pleasure in reading all the Branch Notes in *THE VOTE*.

E. KNIGHT.  
F. A. UNDERWOOD.

## AT HEADQUARTERS.

Next Wednesday afternoon we resume our weekly meetings at Caxton Hall, when the speakers will be Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, LL.A., on "The New Poor Law Orders as they affect Women," and Mrs. Tanner. The following Wednesday, Miss Lucy H. Yates, whose recent lecture on "The Spending Sex" at 1, Robert-street, was quoted in nearly every London and Provincial paper, will speak on "Women and Financial Independence." Miss Yates has a wide experience of financial matters, so her address should be of particular interest to women. The Chair on each occasion will be taken at 3.30.

**Caravan.**—The caravan is now in charge of Mrs. Huntsman, Mrs. Tippett and Mrs. Tritton, and they will cordially welcome visits from all friends who may be in the neighbourhood of the Great North Road, between Hitchin and Bedford.

**Gravesend.**—Our Gravesend Branch has planned a series of drawing-room and open-air meetings during next week, the speaker being Miss Anna Munro. On June 12, a special evening indoor meeting will be held, when the speakers will be Miss Munro and Mr. Laurence Housman.

**Southsea and Gosport.**—A special Women's Freedom League campaign has been arranged by Miss Trott and Mrs. Whetton in this district. The Royal Agricultural Show takes place June 10 and closely following it will be the International Conference for the Abolition of Official Regulation of Prostitution, at which Mrs. Whetton and Mrs. Speck will be the delegates of our Southsea Branch. Miss Nina Boyle will be in Southsea on June 10, and for the next eight days will speak at a series of open-air meetings throughout the district. We urge all our friends in the surrounding neighbourhood to do their best to get to Southsea and to support our campaign there. F. A. U.

## WOMAN AND FREEDOM.

It is sometimes difficult to define a word, even if it stands for a cherished principle, because the accepted meaning of words becomes so distorted and complex through time and misuse; but it is easy for woman to state what she means by freedom, because she does not possess it, even in its most elementary and usually accepted meaning. To illustrate: Swift defined slavery as government without the consent of the governed. Under the government of England, then, women are slaves. And woman throughout the ages has been compelled to accept an ideal of life, and a system of morals and manners, constructed for her by man. Victor Hugo wrote: "Man has his law, he made it for himself; for woman there is no law but the man's law. A reform is necessary, and it will be made in the name of civilisation, of society, and of humanity."

Henry Sidgwick, in "Elements of Politics," says: "It may be fairly affirmed that a body of persons is free when the rules restraining them are in accordance with the corporate will of the body." It certainly cannot be affirmed that the laws restraining women are in accordance with their will. Think of that jumble of ecclesiastical and mediæval abuses which represents our divorce and marriage laws, so that the best definition of marriage remains that it is "a sort of friendship recognised by the police." Are these in accordance with the will of woman? Look at our so-called courts of "justice," where the bodies of women and children are held to be of less value and account than the meanest property; where a man may get eighteen months' hard labour for stealing an overcoat (a recent case), and a few weeks in the second division for the ruin of a girl's soul and body (or be let off entirely on the flimsiest pretext): are the laws which govern these courts in accordance with the will of woman?

The position of woman by man's own interpretation of his laws is illegal as well as monstrous. Take the class of rights which Blackstone distinguishes as Personal Rights; we find under this head: "All civilised systems of law aim at securing the personal safety of individuals." He should have written "men" for "individuals." In the streets of London to-day no woman is safe from insult; as for bodily safety, she is neither safe under our marriage system, nor has she any adequate personal protection in a society which allows a double standard of morality for man, and punishes him so lightly for the most terrible crimes against womanhood that he is led to regard them as largely warrantable.

Under less serious aspects of the relation between men and women, we are confronted by the standpoint which treats a woman as "a cross between an angel and an idiot."


In one of the letters of George Meredith recently published we find:—

Since I began to reflect I have been oppressed by the injustice done to women, the constraint put upon their natural aptitudes and their faculties, generally much to the degradation of the race. . . . I have not studied them more deeply than I have men, but with a deeper interest in their enfranchisement and development, being assured that women of the independent mind are needed for any sensible degree of progress. . . . The

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case with women resembles that of the Irish. We have played fast and loose with them.

Those who have read the three plays by Brioux (translated by Mrs. Shaw) know how they illustrate under what tragic disadvantages woman labours owing to the system of protection and arbitrary control which men have built up around her, and the necessity of her liberation from civic, social and matrimonial slavery, in order that she may accumulate, in an independent struggle with life in all its aspects, that wide experience which is the only warrant for true virtue and true knowledge.

Plotinus said, "We are beautiful when we belong to ourselves." And no woman belongs to herself. Through the centuries man has assumed it to be her province to live and work for him; shut into the seclusion of the boudoir, or the drudgery of the domestic hearth—her impulses and character, talents and genius suppressed and blighted. If we are less beautiful than we should be, as undoubtedly we are, man must remember it is because he has not allowed us "to belong to ourselves."

Edward Carpenter writes:—

People may rail at the new developments, but what, it may be asked, can any decently sensible woman think of her present position—of the mock salutations and heroic politenesses of the average male, with their suggestion of an empty homage to weakness and incapacity; of the unwritten law which condemns her, if occupying any place in society, to bridle in her chin and use an affected speech in order that it may be patent to everybody that she is not free; which forbids natural and spontaneous gesture as unbecoming and suspicious—and indeed in any public place as liable to the attention of the police; what can she think of the perpetual lies under which she has to live—too numerous to be recorded; except that all these things are intolerable? Rather than remain in such a coil, the modern woman is sensible enough to see that she must face the stigma of doing things unladylike; and that only by facing it can she win her true place in the world. . . . Let every man who really would respect his counterpart treat woman also to act so; let him never by word or deed tempt her to grant as a bargain what can only be precious as a gift; let him see her with pleasure stand a little aloof; let him help her to gain her feet; so at last, by what slight sacrifices on his part such a course may involve, may it dawn upon him that he has gained a real companion and helpmeet on life's journey.

Having demonstrated—with the help of many far-seeing and great thinkers—how far woman is from any degree of honourable freedom, we may now consider man's attitude towards her demand for social and political equality and liberty. We will take a book entitled "The Nature of Woman," by a doctor, as representative of the views of a type of man who claims to bring to this subject an unbiased, dispassionate and even sympathetic mind. This writer disposes of the married woman's life as follows: average age married, twenty-three to twenty-five; average family, three (an average much appreciated by present writer who, from practical and exact experience—with his figures—knows how amusingly wrong his conclusions are). During the six years in which she bears these three children, he says, she is incapable of any outside work. Then, as the children will remain at school until fifteen (most parents being unable to afford boarding-schools), the mother will be forty-five by the time the last child leaves school—an age at which no woman can take up work; also, as the years between fifteen and twenty-five (average age they will marry) are so critical in the life of the young, the mother must devote herself for a

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further period of ten years; and he suggests a woman is entitled to rest at the age of fifty-five. Thus he disposes of the married woman! We would suggest he studied the life of Elizabeth Fry, who was mother of eleven children (which should have disposed of her to entire oblivion) and who yet managed to revolutionise the prisons of England, to say nothing of those she visited abroad; who started the nursing home in Bishopsgate from which Florence Nightingale took her nurses to the Crimea; was an active minister in the Society of Friends, and speaker in the anti-slavery campaign, for years visited every transport ship which left England, and was a wise mother and guardian of her children, a devoted wife and capable housekeeper. Her life entirely confounds the point of view which would make the home the only sphere of woman, and upholds Ellen Key's contention that a mother who devotes all her time to her children is not the best company for those children; her interests being narrowed down to domestic experiences, being of little value to young and aspiring life.

After this disposal of the life of the married woman, the writer says: "I repeat, I ask for nothing else than this—that woman should recognise her own individuality and that man should recognise it also—in education, vocation, domestic life and national representation." We can only say that as he fails so utterly to recognise the possibilities of a woman's life, we must beg him to allow her to arrange her own work.

Again: "As lecturer I know, what as biologist I look upon with great uneasiness, this fact, that there are extremely few women who glory in their womanhood." How he ascertains that fact as lecturer I do not know; but we may ask such men if they would openly glory in their sex if it were classed with criminals, paupers and lunatics. Women, through years of suffering, submission and servility, have tended to disvalue themselves.

He dismisses John Stuart Mill's contribution to the subject of woman's enfranchisement by saying he cannot remember "a single sentence of applied biology in his work." Here you get not the unbiased standpoint of the true scientific mind, but the specialised doctor's point of view, and a very narrow one at that. Huxley wrote: "All science is provisional"; and biology is a science in its infancy. If it is fair to draw any general conclusion as to "women's rights" from a biological view, then we may quote from two modern books. In "Pure Sociology" (Lester F. Ward) we find: "The female continues throughout as the main trunk. . . . They represent the centre of gravity of the biological system. They are that stubborn power of permanency of which Goethe speaks. The female not only typifies the race, but, metaphor aside, she is the race." And in "The Eternally Feminine" (Professor Bjerregaard): "As in physics energy is the only thing known, so in reality the feminine is the only life known or definable. Hence the feminine or central will is by necessity the central principle of all philosophy, and is the monism we all search for."

Those of us who are working towards the goal of a free comradeship between man and woman will prefer Edward Carpenter's outlook upon their relationship in "The Drama of Love and Death." Here we find no claim of superiority for either; they are "equal but not alike, compensatory but not opposed, equipotential but not equivalent."

Then our author deplors that woman "seeks to shake herself free from man's influence." It is not from his influence that she wishes to be freed, but from his tyranny, in order that each, as free beings, shall mutually influence each other. While woman is man's property he will not allow himself to be sufficiently influenced by her. The majority of women would be only too glad to be in a position to be more influenced by the man's point of view; but the relations between men and women have become so twisted, so wrested from high and clean purpose and frank acceptances, that marriage is supposed to supply the only possible

comradeship between them, leaving no possibility for outside friendships, a convention which has engendered the narrow and belittling home atmosphere which leads, as Carpenter says, to "a type of family such as that disclosed when on turning over a large stone we disturb an insect home that seldom sees the light," and to what a depth of profound cynicism a society must have fallen which refuses to recognise the possibility of honourable comradeship between men and women! And that free comradeship is the only weapon with which to fight the poison of mistrust and misunderstanding between them.

We feel that the double standard of morality which man has allowed himself is the root cause of this poison of suspicion. It is inconceivable that woman—the mother of the race and the founder of the home—if it had been she who had abrogated this sex-freedom for herself and not man, would have organised a society in which the great creative force of life should have been plunged into such abysmal depths of dishonour and despair.

This wrong to womanhood poisons the very source of the inspiration of life, and has led to one of the saddest heritages of civilisation for woman—that man asks so little of her; often that she shall just amuse him, look smart, and join the army of dolls whose favourite distractions are the fashion papers, the shop-windows, and the details of a carelessly organised household. A splendid woman at the head of one of our big institutions said, looking out over a playground of children: "I shall never know the happiness of being a mother; the man who asked me to marry him did not want enough from me—so I chose this."

One is reminded of that haunting "Celtic prayer of women" given by William Sharp in the wonderful story, "Pharais":—

O Spirit, that broods upon the hills  
And moves upon the face of the deep,  
And is heard in the wind,  
Save us from the desire of men's eyes . . .  
And the joy that triumphs therein,  
And the sport that is in his heart,  
Wherewith he mocketh us,  
Wherewith he playeth with us,  
Wherewith he trampleth upon us,  
Us, who conceive and bear him . . .  
Whom he calleth mother  
And mother again of his wife and children:  
When he looks at our hair and sees it is white;  
And at our eyes, and sees they are dim;  
And at our lips, straightened out with long pain . . .  
And, seeing, seeth all the bitter ruin and wreck of us—  
All save the heart that forbearth—for pity—  
All save the living brain that condemneth him—  
All save the spirit that shall not mate with him—  
All save the soul he shall never see  
Till he be one with it, and equal;  
He who hath the bride, but guideth not;  
He who hath the whip, yet is driven;  
He who as a shepherd calleth upon us,  
But is himself a lost sheep, crying among the hills!  
O Spirit, and the Nine Angels who watch us,  
And Thy Son and Maary Virgin,  
Heal us of the Wrong of Man.

To return to the author of "The Nature of Woman," we find that although he accepts the definition of evolution as "progressive change," he yet states that "woman must follow those occupations which are most in consonance with her nature as it is, and not as it is presumed it may become"—and then proceeds to disqualify her from serious participation in the country's work because she is "a bad reasoner at best." Well, Professor Bergson has said, "The reason is characterised by a natural inability to understand life!" And in support of that view we may instance the present House of Commons, with its "reasoning" and legal minds, and their tragic inability to deal with the live issues of the hour. In conclusion, our author sums up the right attitude of woman to man in an incomparable gem of eloquence: "A woman who loves a man feels as Homer felt, as Shakespeare felt, not in their creative language side, which belongs to manhood and manliness (we remember Sappho here, whom Swinburne declared to be the greatest poet who has



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lived, including Homer and Shakespeare!), but in their scenic, contemplative side. Greece is, England is, my husband is, it is enough, I see, I know." To such fatuous complacency can a doctor and a man of scientific education descend when he talks about "The Nature of Woman"!

It will be asked, if we decide, then, to give woman all the freedom for which she asks, what direct benefit would she bring to the community, what gift to life? I believe that benefit, that gift, would be found in a recreating sincerity of purpose. Of all the evil spirits abroad in civilisation, insincerity is one of the most dangerous; and those who know anything of the work of modern women in any field of activity know the passionate sincerity which saturates it—her desire for reality, her scorn of compromise.

In the description of the hero in the book which Grant Allen wrote to please his own conscience we read: "Alan was only an Englishman and shared the inability of his countrymen to carry any principle to its logical conclusion. He was all for admitting that though things must really be so, yet it were prudent in life to pretend they were otherwise. This is the well-known English virtue of moderation and compromise; it has made England what she is, the shabbiest, sordidest, worst-organised of nations."

There is more truth in that statement than an Englishman will care to admit. The modern woman, newly educated, and aware at last of the unreality of her existence as at present circumscribed, in a tremendous revulsion is facing truth; and the State sorely needs her freshly, awakened sight to light upon its old dust heaps of impurity, its obsolete and petrifying laws, its narrow conventions, its shabby acceptances of belief. Above all, that cleared vision must look with unflinching gaze upon the relations between herself and man, for these are at the root of the worst evils of civilisation.

Consider the stagnation in our public life to-day;

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our Royal Commissions are a by-word! It is thirty-three years since the Royal Commission on the Housing of the Poor was held, and more than twenty since the Royal Commission on Labour sat; how much of any importance has been done as a result of those investigations? In Sir Ed. Ashmead Bartlett's book on the Turkish War he writes: "Ignorance, apathy, and general physical and mental debility hang over our embassies like a leaden pall." Look at our prison and workhouse systems; at our national Church, described by one of its bishops as "a society for shirking vital issues." Think of the "loud laughter" which dishonoured the inquiry into the notorious flat case in the House of Commons last year; and be assured that Sir John Cockburn was right when he said: "It is evident that the patriarchal age of men's exclusive rule has run mad and is doomed." The pity is that man allowed it to run mad before dooming it to a more dignified extinction.

Assuredly the social condition of England to-day cries aloud for a great, new, revivifying influence; and that influence we believe will be found in a freed womanhood. So we rejoice to see in these days that once again "Liberty plucks Justice by the nose." And we urge Liberty to continue that process until the Justice, whose service is in the progress of humanity and not in its arrestment, shall prevail.

That beautiful dreamer of dreams, William Sharp, believed that a new redemption is at hand, and that that redemption shall be through a woman, "a divine woman, a Mary of many passionate hopes and dreams." We believe that dream will be fulfilled, if not through one divinely gifted woman, then through the awakening throughout the world of the dormant soul of woman. Woman freed to any and every enterprise, aware at last of her great responsibilities, and at liberty to help to control that environment into which she is ever bringing new life—the mother soul aflame in a re-created universe.

I remember reading somewhere that it is a great thing to be a poet but a greater to be a lover. At this hour of the world's progress, I, as a woman, think it greatest of all to be a Suffragist, because the freeing of woman will infuse with fresh glory these two eternal things.

EDITH MARY MOORE.

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### THE "PROTECTED" SEX.

#### Brutal Assaults.

Mrs. Loft, Norbiton, knocked down by motor-car when walking with husband and friend to Kingston on Derby day evening. The men shouted at the driver, but he did not stop. Mrs. Loft fearfully injured and not expected to live. One Horatio Slazenger, of Surbiton, arrested.

Miss Haselup, Lewisham, aged seventy-seven, living alone, heard screaming for help on Saturday afternoon. Found covered with blood and in great terror. Severe wounds to head and face, right arm broken, and other injuries inflicted by strange man with a piece of iron railing. He knocked at her door and attacked her when she opened it. Robbery is supposed to be the motive, as rumour attributed substantial means to Miss Haselup. Her condition is critical.

Miss Gladys Evans, Mrs. Baker, and other members of the W.S.P.U., demonstrating in opposition to militant and law-defying men at Belfast on the occasion of the landing of Sir Edward Carson from Liverpool on Saturday, seized by the "loyal Ulstermen," stripped almost naked, and seriously mis-handled. Medical treatment necessary. No arrests.

(Had members of a Suffrage organization so handled Anti-Suffragists we wonder what the Press and the courts of "justice" would have said?)

Mrs. Loft, Hull, attacked by her husband, who was "depressed" because out of work. Set upon his wife and family with a razor during a birthday party for his eighteen-year-old daughter. Felled, he cut his own throat and expired on the doorstep in the sight of a crowd of terrified women.

Nellie Scorer, aged fifteen, Woodhouse Moor, seized by a strange man when crossing the moor on her way to work at 5.30 a.m. Knocked down and her long plait of hair cut off close to the roots in spite of her screams and struggles. The man made off with the plait. All the above will be found in the Sunday papers, May 31.

(The cutting-off of school girls' plaits is a favourite mania of the sex criminal in Berlin.)

Mrs. Smith, Torry, married sixteen years, had to work to support home and children on account of husband's drunken habits. He had pawned his own and the children's clothes for drink, and could not go to work because he had pawned his shirt. When she asked him on a recent date what he had done with the children's things, he threatened to "do for" her and savagely assaulted her. Baillie Edwards, in the Aberdeen Police-court, sentenced him to six weeks' hard labour.

#### Neglect.

David Crombie, Dunfermline, ill-treating and neglecting his four daughters by not providing them with adequate food and clothing. Before Sheriff Umpherston in Dunfermline Sheriff Court, six weeks.

Robert Keegan, Kilmarnock, would not work and did not provide for his family. Absconded. Two months.

#### Gross Immorality.

Jeannie Stevenson, Glasgow, keeping a disorderly house. At Northern Police-court sentenced to a fine of £20 or two months. None of the men frequenting the premises proceeded against or mentioned. *Glasgow Herald*, May 23.

William Brown and William Milne, at Stonehaven Sheriff Court, before Sheriff Lang, found guilty of attacking a mill worker on the public road and attempting indecent assault. Fined £5 or one month.

John M.L. Thomson, before Bailie Maclure at Glasgow Southern Police-court, living on immoral earnings of a woman whom he had assaulted and badly bruised about the face for not bringing him sufficient money. The woman was quite young and had endeavoured to reform him and get him to work. She burst into tears in court and told a piteous tale of constant brutality. Six months' hard labour. *Evening Citizen*, May 21.

Mary Elliot, Gatheshead, involved in an intrigue with George Bolam, manager of a picture palace. She was only fifteen. Later a child was born. The man refused to marry her, repudiated parentage of the infant, and accused the girl of carrying on with other men—the invariable trick of such creatures. An affiliation order in respect of the infant was given against him. The girl's father sued for damages in compensation of the loss of her services and obtained £50. The abominable state of things when men can obtain damages on an injury to a woman makes one blush for the men of the country where it is possible. The girl gets nothing! Case tried at Newcastle before the Under Sheriff.

Fanny Pointon, Manchester, allowed to go about with Clarence Beckett, he being sixteen and she fourteen. At sixteen she gave birth to a child, of which Beckett was adjudged the father. He paid towards the infant's maintenance and promised marriage. When twenty-one he gave a ring and they were considered definitely engaged and were constantly together, the time of the marriage being fixed. Another infant was about to be born and the youth finally wriggled out of the promise he had made. Had in all probability never intended to carry it out. Damages £225, breach of promise. Manchester Assize Court, Mr. Lias, Sheriff's assessor.

#### A Varied Assortment.

Hettie ———, Manchester, seduced by Wilfred Hughes, under promise of marriage, and then jilted. Refused to marry

her, and offered 8s. a week for support of her and her child. Offered to "settle" the case for £10. The child died.

George Lane, Ealing, charged at Westminster for insultingly addressing and abusing a Suffragette seller in the street, and creating a disturbance, pleaded his "indignation" at militant outrages. Bound over in 40s. (For picketing the Director of Public Prosecutions' office, Women's Freedom Leaguers, who caused no disturbance, and attacked no one, were fined 40s. or 14 days.)

Ernest Tomlinson, thirty-two, of Islington, was convicted of bigamy. He ill-treated his second wife and she left him, discovering afterwards he had a wife still living whom he had also treated badly. Judge Rentoul said "You have done a cruel irreparable injury to a respectable young woman by your cruel deception." Eighteen months.

#### Bright Spots.

Jane Gracey and Ellen Roscoe, charged at Liverpool Police-court with petty larceny from various shops. Each sentenced by the Stipendiary to one month in the second division. The husband of the former, a foreman at Birkenhead, called out, "Can't I do that month for my missis; she's not in very good health?" and the man Roscoe also pleaded to serve his wife's sentence instead of her. Gracey, with tears in his eyes, said that for thirty years his wife's record had "never a blemish." The stipendiary was much touched, but was, of course, unable to confer the requested privilege.

At Newcastle-on-Tyne a young woman named Margaret Halliday gave herself up to the police for bigamy "to save her sister." She had married the man Halliday, who "had never been any good," and left him for this reason and subsequently married a man with whom she was very happy. She heard her first husband intended to marry her sister and to save her sacrificed herself. "He ruined my life. I am not going to let him ruin hers," she said. She was remanded.—*News of the World*, May 24.

At Old-street a woman asked for an affiliation order against the man with whom she was living in respect of two children. The man said he could not marry the woman as her former husband was believed to be living. Mr. Chester Jones: "Are you willing to pay 2s. 6d. a week each?" Defendant: "She ought to have more than that in case of a separation. I'm willing for 4s. each." Mr. Chester Jones: "Spoken like a man. My experience is that if a woman is bad there is a man at the bottom of it, and if a man is good there's a woman at the bottom of that, too. Stick to her."—*News of the World*, May 24.

#### AT THE CRIMINAL COURTS.

Clerkenwell Sessions.—Last week, before Mr. Justice LAURIE.

George Beaver, 70, was charged with indecently assaulting Sarah Kalinsky, aged 5. He was found guilty and was bound over to be of good behaviour for two years.

Compare—Louisa Smith, fifty-four, soliciting, four months' hard labour. "If you come back here for the same offence I will give you twelve months," said the Judge.

Alice Childerstone, 48, begging. 4 months. Kate Smith, 79, begging. 2 months.

Rose White, 29, soliciting. P.C. 806A betrayed the methods of some policemen when effecting arrests of these women. He said he cautioned prisoner and later took her into custody. Questioned by the judge, at last he admitted he did not caution her. Prisoner had a sprained wrist, and her counsel suggested force had been used. "No force at all," said the constable, amending it, after questioning by saying, "No more force than was necessary." A nominal sentence of two days was imposed which, as she had been in custody for three weeks, meant immediate release. Mr. Laurie remarked that on the evidence before him he did not think he would have convicted her at all had he been the magistrate. This magistrate was Mr. Denman. Had this girl not been provided with counsel she would certainly have been sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The iniquitous manner in which policemen arrest these women as "disorderly persons," for merely speaking to a man in the street, the loose careless way in which they are allowed to give evidence, the entire lack of corroboration of their evidence, and the frequent insolence of the Bench towards these prisoners, call for drastic reform. It is to the constable's interest to arrest these women, for not only is he regarded as a zealous servant, but the fines, when paid, go into the police funds. No policeman would arrest a man for speaking to a woman in the street, and if a woman complained to a constable of a man's unwelcome attentions, she would be required to appear as witness against him, and not allowed to go away as are the men who are accosted. Mr. Mead is the only London magistrate who has sent a man for trial for accosting women.

Ethel Ball, 32, a good-looking, intelligent girl, was charged with stealing a suit of clothes. She pawned them; afterwards regretting it, she redeemed them and gave them to her sister to hand to the police. This case is interesting as showing how, when they wish, our law-makers can juggle with the law. The police offered no evidence of stealing against her, and counsel for the prosecution said they had concluded she was guilty only of illegal pawning. As in the indictment she was charged with stealing, she could not be tried for illegal pawning; so a formal verdict was given of Not Guilty.

EDITH M. WATSON.

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#### A CARTOONIST UP TO DATE.

It is impossible to watch current events, or, in any sense, to breathe the modern social and political atmosphere, without feeling that a new spirit is in the air. Some talk of it vaguely as "inrest," others use the more definite word "revolt," but few will deny that it is abroad, and to be reckoned with.

There are those who hate and fear it; there are others who welcome in it a possible solvent of society's terrible problems. These last are its exponents, for they know how it has arisen. Society has given birth to this monstrous thing. Of that they are well aware. Therefore by words, spoken and written, and by the pictorial illustration that looms so largely in the life of to-day, they hold the mirror up to society. Not always wise—sometimes exaggerative and lurid—they do, undoubtedly, serve the world. They force the careless to think. They compel the self-satisfied and arrogant, even, it may be, for the flashing of a moment, to see themselves as others see them. Such an exponent is Will Dyson—the "Cartoonist of Revolt."

Our gallant contemporary, *The Daily Herald*, has recently issued a new volume of his cartoons (price 7d.). We recommend it to our readers.

There are forty cartoons in all. They deal with the most important movements of the time. Some are terrible, as "The Load-Line that has been Shifted," Davy Jones receiving gratefully "the dead sea-fruits" into his locker and ejaculating, "Bless Lloyd George!" Some amusing, like the intensely comic cartoon of the novelist haunted by the phantom of the "Young Person," and writing in abject terror. Some pathetic as "The New Advocate," Death, bearing a poster of "Votes for Women" through Westminster on the day of Miss Davison's funeral, and the haggard woman and child wondering why they are not forcibly fed.

But the most remarkable of all is the last, which will certainly—we believe—go down to history as symbolical of woman's place in our country to-day. It is called "England, 1913." On the one side we see a woman with pale face and bent head in a prison cell. Under her is written "Unwomanly, Holloway"; on the other a standing figure, gaunt and haggard, in the act of smiting molten iron. Underneath is written "Womanly, Cradley Heath." If that were enlarged into a banner and borne in our demonstrations of protest, it would be more enlightening than many sermons.

All honour, we say, to the man who, young in years, but old in experience and sympathy, has dared to use his gifts in the cause of outraged humanity, who has not hesitated to tear the mask from triumphant hypocrisy, or to bring into the light of day the sorrows and unnecessary sufferings of his fellow men and women!

We do not doubt that this volume of cartoons will have a large sale.

C. DESPARD.

## THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, June 5, 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.

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"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Book-stalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

## THE CRACKLING OF THORNS.

"The laughter of fools," said a wise man, "is like the crackling of thorns under a pot." And with that contemptuous quotation we can dismiss the sneers and jeers of the ill-informed public and the ill-informing Press from which it derives its inspiration ament the doings in the Suffragist world. The outbreaks of impotent, malignant fury, and the demonstrations of sex mania and indecency which attend them on the occasion of any fresh development in the suffrage world, only strengthen the Cause and steel the determination of the women who know what it all means and what is really behind the pro- and the anti-Suffrage movements.

Of far greater interest, and of even more informing value, is a survey of the situation and a study of the "principles" advanced by the men who to-day conduct the nation's affairs. There is an element of the purely comic in the duel between Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward Carson, with Mr. Law enthusiastically, if a trifle unskillfully, holding the sponge for his chief, and Mr. Redmond, congested with wrath, refusing any kind of assistance to the gentleman whom he has landed in such a mess. There is a really "Irish" solution of the question awaiting them in the feverish preparations of the two "armies" of rival volunteers across the Channel; and there is a thoroughly genuine ring about the chorus of shocked dismay at the conduct of militant women from both sides. All these fussy, frothing gentlemen are enunciating principles and upholding ideals and acting on a very high-toned and uplifting plane. The net result of their joint action is expected to be civil war.

In civil war, the rules of "honourable warfare"—if anything so vile as war may dare claim that title—may be; and will be, entirely set aside. The fate that will be meted out by each side to the women who voluntarily or involuntarily intervene may be gauged by what happened in the Dublin strike, in the fight outside Buckingham Palace, at the Ipswich election, or the reception to Sir Edward Carson only last Saturday. This sort of thing can be calmly contemplated by men when engaged in their own struggles. Women must just put up with it! But when women create disorder in a quarrel of their own, there is very little spirit of "putting up with it" displayed by the men who think themselves entitled to force any kind of conditions on women during their own disputes.

Sir Edward Carson has again implored the Prime Minister to arrest him, and not being accommodated, has defiantly returned to Ireland "to complete his preparations." "If this be treason," he declaims, "I glory in treason." Meanwhile Nellie Hall, unconvicted, aged seventeen, is being subjected to barbarous ill-treatment at the hands of male ruffians in an effort to break her body and spirit and frighten her into renouncing her claim to choose, like Sir Edward

Carson, the kind of government she will obey. Mr. Asquith and Sir Edward, snarling at each other like two dogs, each afraid to spring first, may envy these girls their fortitude.

The Ulster Council pours great scorn on the new "Volunteer" movement, and accuses the other side of "intimidating" the Government! This is an account furnished by the organ presided over by Mr. Garvin: "Its spontaneous growth (of the Nationalist Volunteers) has been so rapid that Mr. Devlin, realising what a menace it constituted to the Nationalist 'machine,' but realising, too, that the party could not cope with it, has made up his mind to identify the 'machine' with its policy." This, with the alteration of "Unionist" for "Nationalist," and the substitution of Mr. Law for Mr. Devlin, would be equally true of the other side. Why are the leaders of these illegally armed men not in prison? Of conspiracy and law-breaking there has been enough to earn sentences of penal servitude for half a hundred men on both sides; of incitement, much more. But as both sides openly threaten bloodshed if interfered with, law-breaking, incitement, and conspiracy proceed unchecked. This is what passes for law and order in the leading country of the world in the twentieth century; it is for setting these men at defiance and refusing to conform to their standards that women are being rebuked!

Incitement is being freely practised, indeed. Mr. F. E. Smith, at Ipswich, said that "when this Cabinet was mentioned most men who could shoot went to their gun cupboards." *The Scotsman* exonerates the Opposition from all blame for disorderly conduct by alluding to the Prime Minister, "who exasperated the Opposition past endurance." Suffragists are not allowed to use the plea of "exasperation"! Mrs. Bentinck, in a letter to the Press, quotes from *The People* and *The Evening Standard* incitements to ill-treat Suffragists. No one but Suffragists is proceeded against, and the worst of all these crimes are committed by persons who, as Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament, Privy Councillors, gentlemen on the Bench and in official positions, are supposed to be most gravely concerned to maintain law and order. The moral to be drawn is, you may break the law if you have it in your power to do something worse!

In the midst of the uproar, the Chancellor of the Exchequer found a fitting opportunity to deliver an epoch-making utterance. All these gentlemen, from so much conspiring, have plots on the brain; and the Chancellor had discovered a new plot—one "for destroying the House that represents the people of this country." The effrontery of using the word "people" in such a connection is colossal. It was, he continued, representative government that was at stake. To-day the House of Commons was what its name implied, the House of the *Common people*. They (his party) were fighting for the rights of the *democracy*. Were they going to have the *liberties of the people* destroyed? The *wrongs of the people* were being taken stock of one by one and set right. And so on. In all these fine phrases Mr. George, like other politicians, leaves out one word—male. No other form of representation, no liberties or wrongs except male ones, receive any attention. *The Times*, cold before the spectacle of women ready to suffer any horror, any indignity, rather than renounce their right to be of "the people," tells us loftily that the question of Women's Suffrage is not urgent. Men have no time for it now, while really important matters, such as the Carson rebellion, are engaging their attention.

This is the kind of thing to make British women almost ashamed of their nationality; but we do not anticipate any cessation of the constant appeals to their patriotism from one set of politicians or another. In the meantime, questions relating to their nationality are being settled for them over their heads. They are to be patriotic to order, so to speak. To be vastly proud of being British, but to be equally ready to be

French should a private and personal attraction induce a woman to marry a Frenchman. The man's affections are, of course, in no way to influence his patriotism! Mr. McKenna has declined to allow British women to retain their rights as British citizens on marriage with foreigners, in his new Naturalisation Bill; and once more women find themselves dealt with and disposed of according to masculine notions of what is proper for them at a moment when the men people are giving a vivid object lesson of how hopelessly off the lines they are in their notions of what is or is not proper!

C. NINA BOYLE.

## OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

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

Illegitimacy and Crime in Australia: Question and Answer.

Over the initials E. S., a correspondent in *The Sunday Times* of May 24, writes:—

"Let me ask your correspondent, as I have others, and at public meetings—but never yet had an answer refuting my statements—why crime and illegitimacy are higher in Australia, where women have the vote, than in this much abused country of ours."

Here are the latest statistics:—

ILLEGITIMACY.  
Cf. Official Year Book, Commonwealth of Australia, 1913, p. 192.  
Comparison of illegitimate births per thousand of unmarried and widowed female population in different countries. (Latest available returns).

	1890-2.	1900-2.
Ireland .. .. .	3.9	3.8
England and Wales .. .. .	10.5	8.5
New Zealand .. .. .	9.0	8.9
Commonwealth of Australia .. .. .	15.9	13.3
Scotland .. .. .	17.1	13.4

The percentage of illegitimate births in Australia is therefore shown to be slightly lower than in Scotland. There was a slight increase in the rate in Australia in the years 1902-1905, but during the last six years there has been a decrease.

It should be remembered that returns for Australia include the tropical Northern Territory, where as yet there are few white women and the white men exploit the aboriginal women.

The percentage of illegitimacy to total births in the Northern Territory is 29.03. Compare with this the percentage in South Australia, which is 4.21. In South Australia there are 103 white men to 100 white women. Which sex is to blame?

CRIME.  
Cf. Official Year Book, Commonwealth of Australia, 1913, p. 908.

Year.	Convictions per 10,000 persons.
1891 .. .. .	44.8
1901 .. .. .	29.1
1911 .. .. .	24.6

### From Australia.

According to Reuter's Agency, the Women's National League, which represents former anti-suffragists and now does nothing for women, sent the following telegram for communication to the King: "We desire to express the utmost indignation at the Suffragette outrages and their insults to his Majesty the King.—(Signed) Eva Hughes, president, Victoria; Sarah Derham, hon. secretary."

The following resolution was passed by big open-air demonstration at Melbourne, on May 25:—

This meeting expresses indignation at the unconstitutional action of King's advisers in refusing women their legal rights to lay petition before His Majesty. It deeply regrets that this advice has led to cruel illusage of loyal subjects. Believing the Liberal Government for party purposes has dragged the Crown into conflict with women seeking enfranchisement, sympathises with those who demand immediate resignation. VIDA GOLDSTEIN, Chairman.

### A HELPLESS KING.

You sit a helpless king upon a gorgeous throne,  
You wear red velvet robes, trimmed with a fur of snow;  
In precedence of all you royally stand alone,  
And bent, uncovered heads are seen where'er you go.  
Statesmen and officers upon you wait,  
While with a golden pen you sign some great decree;  
You drive abroad in careful, guarded state,  
Of your majestic self you speak as WE.

Yet, of what worth this emptiness of show?  
What does your purple carry, save its weight?  
What does your crown mean, what does your sceptre throw?  
Of vital force to soften women's fate?  
O, king of outward splendour, without power,  
O, royal pomp, hidebound by party laws,  
O, fettered life, without one human hour,  
You hear, yet dare not stir to help this Cause.

## SITTING ON THE BABY.\*

It is a sordid tragedy—there are many such—told recently in a coroner's court in a Lancashire town. We will endeavour to tell the plain unvarnished tale, extenuating nothing, nor setting down aught in malice. We have cast the main incident of this realistic tragedy of home life in dramatic form, changing the names of the persons concerned, to avoid giving pain to the survivors.

Dramatis Personæ.

MR. HIPPOPOTAMUS HEAVYSIDES.  
NIOBE, his wife.  
MARAH DOLORES, his daughter, aged eight years.  
GRACE DARLING, SAPPHO NIGHTINGALE, his youngest child aged five months.  
(The Heavysides' quiver doubtless contained other arrows, but, in connection with the present tragedy, they may be considered negligible.)

SCENE. An English home, vaunted product of our insular civilisation. The baby is lying in a cradle (not an orange box) by the fire, under the care of Marah Dolores, who is apparently acquiring experience in "mothercraft" and the duties of parentage.

Exit Niobe as Mr. Heavysides enters. He has been spending the evening in the local abode of Bacchus, gaining there that knowledge of politics and public business from the educative effects of which women are debarred. If he were able to describe his condition, he would say that he was "— drunk."

He sits down heavily with an air of extreme fatigue. Marah Dolores (in crescendo tones): Muvver, muvver, favver's bin and sat down on the biby.

The scene changes to a coroner's court on the following morning. Unfortunately, no official stenographer having been present, it was impossible to obtain a full and accurate report of the proceedings. From information received, we have been able to gather a few of the chief points of the discussion.

Present: The coroner and twelve good men and true forming the jury. All appeared to feel uncomfortable, but important, and endeavoured to persuade each other that their time that morning was very valuable.

The proceedings began with an address from the coroner, who told the jury: (1) that this was an unfortunate occurrence, (2) that it was their duty to discover by whose act the baby had died, and (3) and the nature of that act. Did they, or did they not, he asked them, consider that there was any negligence on the part of the parents or did they consider that the poor baby had died by a regrettable accident?

We are able to give below some of the chief points urged by the jury in coming to their decision.

No. 1 said that it was a very sad case.  
No. 2 said that Mr. Hippopotamus Heavysides must have been very drunk.

This proposition was received with unanimous assent.  
No. 3 said he felt the baby was better dead.

No. 4 said that he had a logical mind, that, being men, they all had logical minds, and they must not allow their private feelings to run away with their judgment.

This remark suggested to No. 5 that it was a matter for congratulation that women were not allowed upon juries.

No. 6 asked what evidence the woman had given on the matter.

No. 7 replied that her feelings had run away with her, as was the way with women, who were temperamentally emotional.

No. 8 said they must consider their verdict and regard the matter impartially.

No. 9 was inclined to consider that the woman had shown gross negligence in leaving the child in the same room with her father.

No. 10 said he had every sympathy with the father. The woman was probably a shrew and a slut, and, consequently, he was forced to go out of his home to obtain the comfort which should have been his on his own domestic hearth.

At this point the conversation tended to become general on the subject of the delinquencies of wives and mothers.

No. 11 said that it was no use crying over the broken bowl

\* The incident is reported in the daily papers of May 21, 1914.

and the spilt milk of human life. Facts were stubborn things and must be accepted.

No. 12 was of the same opinion. If they were to bring in a verdict which would have the effect of lodging Mr. Heavysides for an indefinite period in one of His Majesty's prisons, this would have the effect of depriving Mrs. Niobe and the family of their affectionate and natural protector.

(At this point a general discussion took place on the amount of the Poor Rate.)

Various other general considerations were heard, such as:

That justice should be tempered with mercy.

That circumstances altered cases.

That if a man did not know what he was doing he could not be held responsible for what he did.

That quite respectable people often found themselves in uncomfortable positions.

That but for the grace of God all the twelve jurymen might have sat on their babies.

That Mr. Heavysides was a man and a brother.

After consultation they brought in a verdict to the effect that the child died through the act of her father, but that it would not be right to say that the act was one of gross negligence.

The coroner congratulated Mr. Heavysides on being a free man. He advised him to be more careful in future. He told him he might get quite a nasty jar if he thought there was a chair and there wasn't, and he were to sit down on the floor instead. He said also that babies did not make comfortable cushions; they were not resilient enough. He expressed his sympathy with the bereaved father, who had been punished sufficiently by the knowledge that he had been the cause of his daughter's death. Mr. Heavysides thanked the coroner, and said that the ways of Providence were inscrutable, and that doubtless his little lamb was now a hangel in 'even.

We wish to make it clear that we do not regard

# THOMPSONS

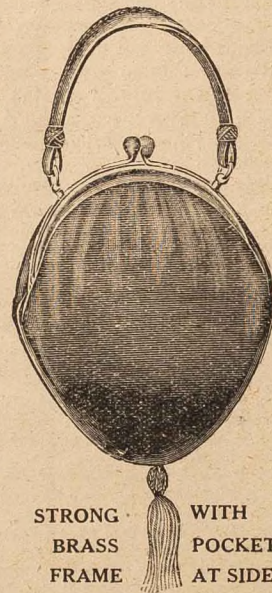
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STRONG WITH  
BRASS POCKET  
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Mr. Heavysides as a typical British father. But, following the advice of a philosopher, who told us to seek for the "significance of happenings," we may regard the attitude of Mr. Heavysides as symbolic. He has crushed out the life which contained not only the promise of physical growth, but also potentialities of mental and moral development. His fellow-men, who have placed themselves in authority over women, are endeavouring to crush not only the bodies of women but also the spirit of freedom and the hope of a better future for the race. They are seeking to annihilate some of the happiness and well-being which might be their own. And this is as ungracious a misuse of human energy as the crushing out of the immature life by the stupid and brutal force of a drunkard.

E. M. N. C.

### ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

**Australia, from a Woman's Point of View.** By Jessie Ackermann. (Cassell, 6s.)

The title chosen by Miss Ackermann will commend her book to very many readers. She is the first to write on the Island-Continent from a Woman's standpoint, and for the attempt alone we owe her thanks. Even the mistakes of a pioneer may be helpful to those who follow. Though Miss Ackermann has not resided in Australia, she has had unusual opportunities of studying life there, and she writes, especially of mothers and girls, with warm sympathy. It is therefore the more to be regretted that, for want of careful correction of inferences and hearsay information, she should often make misleading statements. Her account of the Government in Australia is one-sided. She tells the story of "How Women got the Franchise" as it is told by that section of the people who were the opponents of the movement. She completely overlooks the most interesting and characteristic features of women's political work, the women's party organisations which insist on keeping themselves independent of the men's organisations, and the rapidly-growing women's non-party organisations. She pays a tribute to Miss Goldstein's pleasing personality, but says nothing of the splendid disinterestedness which marks her work. She gives a portrait of Mrs. Dwyer, but no account of Mrs. Dwyer's work, e.g., of her schemes for the re-construction of domestic service and the raising of housework to the level of an organised branch of industry.

Miss Ackermann gives few indications of the dates of the circumstances she describes. Consequently her statements frequently conflict with recent statistics. She speaks with severity of the small effect of the woman's vote, and blames the absorption in party politics. It is, indeed, true that the women of Australia are not fully awake to the power they possess, and that their true work is sadly hampered by party. But does not Miss Ackermann know that it is since women have enjoyed the same citizen rights with men that the human point of view has prevailed, and is increasingly prevailing, in legislation, and that enlightened regulation of hours and conditions of work for women and children, provision for widows and deserted wives and their children, old age pensions given to women at sixty (to men at sixty-five), Pure Food and Pure Milk Acts, &c., are the result of equal Suffrage? Does she not remember for how many years her own body, the Women's Christian Temperance Union, pleaded in vain in New South Wales, for better protection for girls, and how the age of consent was raised three months after the women got the vote? As regards Equal Pay for Equal Work, Miss Ackermann does not seem to be aware that the principle has obtained in the Federal Government services since 1903, through the influence of the Women's Political Association and the Women's Post and Telegraph Association, that repeated judicial decisions affirm its soundness, and that it is now a plank in the platform not only of the Labour organisations, but also of the Australian Liberal Women's Union. The latest news tells that the principle is also favoured by the Liberal Premier. It is true that the higher posts in the Government services have hitherto been only open to men, but at the first conference of Australian Public Service Associations held in Sydney last December, the resolution was carried for both Commonwealth and State: "That women shall be eligible for appointment in all divisions of the public services." It is noteworthy that this conference consisted of sixty-eight men and two women.

It is to be hoped that Miss Ackermann will carefully revise her book. Her sympathy for the women of Australia is so keen that it is greatly to be regretted that she has been misinformed on many matters which intimately concern their welfare.

HARRIET C. NEWCOMB.

### A SOUND INVESTMENT.

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### OUR OPEN COLUMN.

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

### CRITICISM AND A REPLY.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

Tighoruachan, Cardross, May 29, 1914.

Madam,—I do not know whether you open your columns to correspondents who are in favour of the objects of the Suffrage Movement but who do not altogether favour the various methods by which the different Suffrage societies seek to obtain these objects. If you do I shall be very glad if you will publish this comment on Miss Murray's article which appears on page 79 of your issue of May 22.

I may say that I was in favour of votes for women because I felt that by enlisting the help of women in the councils of the nation we should raise the whole level of politics and of political discussion. This was the claim which was urged by the original leaders of the movement, and which is still advanced by the more responsible leaders to-day. Recent events have made many of us begin to doubt whether these expectations will be realised.

How can that claim be reconciled with the wild orgies of the Militants? How can it be supported when a woman of Miss Murray's unquestionable ability puts her name to an article such as appeared in the issue to which I have referred.

At the close of her first paragraph she brings in a jibe at Sir Edward Carson, a debating point which only thinly veils an appeal to class prejudice. Miss Murray believes, rightly or wrongly, that she is fighting for freedom for women. Sir Edward Carson and the Ulstermen believe, rightly or wrongly, that they are preparing to fight for their personal and political freedom. Admitting the sincerity of both, surely instead of raising easy cheers at public meetings, it would be better if Miss Murray and her friends were to take note of the discipline, the self-restraint, the self-sacrifice, and the absence of any violence which has been so remarkable a feature of the Ulster organisation. It is this discipline and self-restraint that has impressed us with the force and genuineness of Ulster's claim. It is the absence of discipline and of self-restraint in the Women's Movement that has disheartened many of its friends.

Again, in Miss Murray's second paragraph, we learn that men of the educated classes are opposed to "progress, purity, and decent wages for women." I must apologise if I have misunderstood her, but that statement is, in my opinion and judging from my own experience, absolutely untrue, and, what is more, I think Miss Murray will, on second thoughts, admit that it is untrue. Some men may be, or are, opposed to Women's Suffrage as the best means of obtaining this end, but to say, or imply, that educated men are opposed to the ends in themselves is so utterly untrue that I hope Miss Murray will see her way to withdraw the statement and apologise.

The rest of the paragraph is not unlike that which we hear from sixth-rate politicians—never from leaders—and it comes as a great disappointment to those who, like myself, expected something better and nobler from the more intellectual leaders of the Women's Movement. Miss Murray has brains and abilities far above the average, and if a short experience of political agitation has had such a deadening effect upon her, one begins to wonder what effect the possession of a vote will have on those who have only average brains. Even in the last paragraph we get the same flood of misrepresentation.

It is true that certain members of our congregation objected very strongly to the parish minister taking the chair at Miss Murray's meeting. Not because they were opposed to "progress, purity, and decent wages for women." It cannot be that, for, as Miss Murray well knows, many of the members of the Church who were among the objectors, are amongst the most liberal and sympathetic supporters of any scheme for alleviating sickness, distress, or poverty, and as Miss Murray knows, too, there is no district in the West of Scotland which, for its size, contributes so liberally to every deserving scheme. No, the reason is not far to seek. Miss Murray must be well aware of the not infrequent interruptions of Divine service, of attempts to interfere with weddings in churches, the burning of churches, and the desecration of sacred monuments. Looking to these things can you wonder that many of us object, and object very strongly, to a parish minister publicly identifying himself with these, or the friends and followers of those who have been guilty of acts of violence against God's house, or guilty of trying to stop the preaching of God's Word?

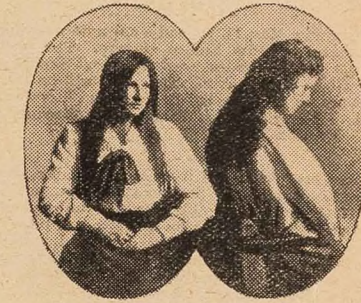
The whole article appears to me to be so absolutely unworthy of Miss Murray that I hope she will see her way to admit that it was written in the heat of the moment and unreservedly withdraw it.—I am, &c.,

W. H. ANDERSON.

CURING MANY ILLS.—Most soothing to tired workers is a course of scientific head massage, and at the same time the health of the hair is greatly helped. If you are uncertain as to the relief to be obtained, pay a visit to Miss L. Murray, 40, Hereford-road, Bayswater, an eager member of the Women's Freedom League, who has made a special study of scientific head and face massage. You will be gratified and grateful.

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### THE PROTECTION OF CRIMINALS.

Miss Marguerite Sidley asks us to correct an error appearing in last week's issue, on the subject of the assault on Mrs. Cubley on May 21. It was Mr. Denman, not Mr. Paul Taylor, who was so abominably rude to that lady when she applied for a summons against the plain-clothes officer who so disgracefully misused his powers. Mr. Denman has offended before, and appears to make a hobby of discourtesy to women, and has been marked down as one of the Men who must go.

Scotland Yard refuses to give any assistance to Mrs. Cubley in identifying the offender, who is one of Sir Edward Henry's own men, and whose extremely recognisable portrait is to be seen in the issue of an illustrated paper the day after the affray. Following on the "Roll of Honour" compliment bestowed on J Division, which contains the precious crew concerned in the Homerton scandal, we may shortly expect to find this person in receipt of that special recognition which is part of the Protection of Criminals system now in vogue.

### HOW MR. MASTERMAN LOST VOTES.

Trifling with the question of Woman Suffrage lost Mr. Masterman votes at Ipswich, as he discovered to his cost. Here is the crucial question and the answer which turned Liberals into opponents: "What steps does Mr. Masterman intend to take as a member of the Cabinet to secure a settlement of the question of the enfranchisement of women?"

Mr. Masterman: "Not burning down houses." He proceeded to say that he had one policy, and one policy alone, as far as women were concerned. He would not vote for giving women who had got property votes and not giving women who had not got property votes. He would not vote for giving women who were not married votes, and excluding those who were married. Married women were the best women in the country. As a man who had a strong Liberal wife, a grand-niece of Mr. Gladstone, and who had had two children, and appreciated the maternity benefit, he would vote for the enfranchisement of women in one way—personally he would vote for giving all men and women over twenty-one years of age the vote. If he did so no Tories would be returned.

PLEASE MENTION "THE VOTE," WHEN ORDERING GOODS.

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## BRANCH NOTES.

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

**LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Croydon.—Office, 32A, The Arcade, High-street.**

A committee meeting was held on May 27, when two new members were elected: Mrs. Loveday and Miss Wilnot. It was decided to hold our open-air meetings at a new pitch, where no Suffrage meetings have yet been held. Members please note change of day and pitch. The committee is anxious to arrange drawing-room meetings at the homes of members or friends who live in the outskirts of the borough. Clapham.

On Sunday evening, May 24, we had a splendid meeting on Clapham Common, addressed by Miss Eunice Murray. The weather made it impossible for us to hold one last week, but next Sunday, June 7, Miss Anna Munro will be the speaker. The chair will be taken at 6 p.m., and volunteers are wanted to sell THE VOTE and literature, to take the collection, and to secure fresh members. The following week we hope to have Mrs. Nevinson.

**East London.**

A Midsummer Day picnic will be held on Sunday, June 21. The party will leave Liverpool-street Station at 1.1 p.m., and will be met at Loughton at 1.41 p.m. A ramble through unfrequented parts of Epping Forest will be followed by an *al fresco* tea, price 1s. each. As the object is to make money for the Birthday Fund, members are asked for gifts of fruit, cakes, sandwiches or sweets. Offers and suggestions should be sent soon to the secretary, Miss Nixon, Glencoe, Queen's-road, Loughton. Next Branch meeting, 37, Wellington-buildings, Bow, on Thursday, June 11, at 6.30 p.m.

**Hackney.**

Our second drawing-room meeting was held on May 28, but the attendance was not large. Those who did not come will regret that they did not hear Mrs. Huntsman's excellent address on the disabilities of voteless women. Mrs. Catmur, our hostess, provided cakes, curd, and marmalade for sale in aid of the Birthday Fund, and these found ready purchasers.

**Harrow.**

We have received a notice of distraint upon the premises of the shop, 38, Lowlands-road, for non-payment of the landlord's property tax. Everything—except the literature and a few pots of jam—is the property of private owners and labelled as such, so it will be interesting to see what the Government intend to do. As soon as details are arranged, a notice will be sent to all members, and we must have another procession as last year. Another of our members, Miss Larner, is also tax-resisting.

On Monday, June 22, Miss Boyle and Mr. Laurence Housman are coming to speak for us at the garden meeting to be held at Rions, Northwick-park-road. Mrs. Adam, 40, Gayton-road, has kindly offered to send out the invitations in my absence. For further invitation cards please apply to her. Will all members who have time to spare look in at the shop during the next fortnight, as there will be a good deal of extra work, and I shall be on the caravan till June 17?—MARGARET HUNTSMAN.

**Mid-London.**

Our monthly members' meeting is postponed until Thursday, June 18. I hope for a large attendance, as we shall arrange an entertainment to increase our Branch contribution to the Birthday Fund. Another Bohemian evening has been proposed. We shall be very glad to have other suggestions.

**Tufnell Park.**

A social entertainment will be held on Friday evening, June 5. Music, recitations, and a speech from Miss Anna Munro. Refreshments, tickets, 6d., from Miss J. Barrow, 202, Brecknock-road, N., Mrs. Gugenheim, 41, Anson-road, N., Mrs. Ayres Lucas, 13, Stock Orchard Crescent, N.

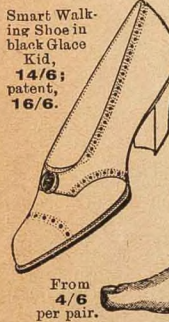
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**PROVINCES.—Bournemouth.**

At a meeting at Surrey-road, on May 29, Mrs. Hull took the chair. Miss Trotter made a speech which keenly interested the crowd. A lady, shaking hands with Miss Trotter, said God would bless the work. A public meeting will be held at Dene Hall on Monday, June 8, when Mrs. Mustard, of London, will be the speaker.

**Brighton and Hove.**

The meeting in Hove Town Hall on May 27 was a great success. Mr. Baillie-Weaver gave an excellent address on "The Status of Women." Interest had been aroused in the meeting through Mrs. Taplin's week's work in the district, during which some splendid open-air meetings were held. Several new members joined, and one associate. Three dozen copies of THE VOTE were sold and a good quantity of literature. A special collection was taken at the indoor meeting and a substantial sum added to Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. On Tuesday Mrs. Taplin spent the day in Worthing, where we are shortly opening a Branch, and in the evening addressed a large and attentive audience on Fish Market-square. Special thanks are due to Mrs. Burd, Miss Gregory, Mrs. Nicholls, and Mr. Slarks for their help in the campaign. The social in aid of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund is fixed for June 17, when it is hoped Miss Nina Boyle will be present, and also address a meeting during the day.

**Chester.—Suffrage Shop: 45, St. Werburgh-street.**

A "Pound" Sale will be held on Saturday, June 6. Doors open at 10.30 a.m. Gifts of money, provisions, sweets, and miscellaneous articles of any description will be gratefully received, and may be sent at any time to the Shop.

**Ipswich.**

Our meeting on May 28 was well attended. Mrs. Garner and Mrs. Redmond gave their interesting papers on Co-operation, and a good discussion resulted. Mrs. Hossack gave an account of the successful by-election campaign, and a donation was voted by the Branch towards the expenses. Contributions for the tea at our Birthday Party on June 9, also jam, sweets, vegetables, or eggs for sale, will be most welcome. We must make it a great success, and we rely on members to make a special effort to attend and bring friends.

**Middlesbrough.**

The indoor meetings of the session were terminated by the "At Home" which was held last Monday night in Hinton's Cafe. The chair was taken by Miss L. Mahony, and an interesting address on the question of Woman Suffrage was given by Madame Richardson, which was followed by an animated and well-sustained discussion. During the evening songs were given by Miss E. Lee and Mr. Crow, accompanied by Miss Frances Richardson. Miss Broadbridge gave recitations from Mrs. Perkins Gilman, Mrs. Walker gave an entertaining monologue, and Mr. Crow a humorous sketch. At the close the "Women's Marseillaise" was sung. A Jumble Sale which was held on May 26 in All Saints' Schoolroom has added considerably to the funds of the League. Will members please remember that a meeting will be held for business on Tuesday, June 9?

**Portsmouth and Gosport.**

Miss Trotter and Mrs. Whetton were the speakers at the meeting for teachers only at Murdoch's Rooms, Palmerston-road, on May 25. The Misses Fraser, Hatrill and Trotter provided the musical part of the programme. Three new members were made and a good collection taken. The usual pleasant afternoon was spent on May 27 at our work-party, held at 17, Lombard-street, by kind invitation of Miss Mottershall. Members are urged to attend the work-parties, as there are plenty of orders on hand. The next will be held at 89, Festing-grove, on Tuesday, June 9, at 3 p.m.

**SCOTLAND.—Clydebank.**

The Scottish Council opened up a campaign in Clydebank on May 28. A splendid meeting was held on Friday evening, when Miss Broughton gave an exposition on "The Case for Woman's Suffrage," which was much appreciated and evoked many questions, and THE VOTE sold well. On Saturday afternoon another meeting was held in the same place, and Miss Broughton showed how the vote would affect the economic position of women. Miss Barrs presided at both meetings.

**Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop: 90, Lothian-road.**

The Summer Sale held on May 30 resulted in the addition of a good sum to the Branch funds. Miss Sara Munro presided, and the sale was opened by Mrs. Shaw McLaren in a short and effective speech, in which she showed the need of Woman Suffrage in the interest, above all, of the nation's children. Afterwards Miss Dundas Grant, Mrs. Bell, Dr. Margaret Young, Mrs. Thomson, Mrs. Steven, Mrs. McGowan, Miss Nannie Brown, Mrs. Crabbe, Mrs. Russell, Miss Thomson, Miss Davidson, and Miss Marchbank were kept busy at their respective stalls, while Mrs. Jackson, Miss McLaren, and their assistants dispensed dainty teas, and Mrs. Simpson and Miss Cresso revealed hidden depths of character to their clients. The committee heartily thanks all these ladies. More Vote sellers are urgently wanted during the summer months. Please volunteer at once, however short the time at your disposal.

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

The Glasgow Council met on May 27 to discuss business. The sewing party, which has been held in the shop every Monday for the past few months, will be discontinued from the beginning of June until

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September. It has been decided to close the shop as usual in July when we hope our members will help in the Clyde Campaign.

**Perth.**

The campaign in Perth was brought to a close on May 26, when a large and most successful meeting was held at the Porte. Miss Barrs presided. Miss Broughton gave a very interesting address. Throughout the campaign the sales of THE VOTE and Suffrage literature have been well maintained. Much assistance has been given both by members and friends, which the organisers greatly appreciate. At a members' meeting on May 25 it was unanimously decided to re-form the Branch. The campaign has resulted in new members joining, and has instilled into the old members a new enthusiasm to keep the flag flying until the Woman's Movement is triumphant.

**OTHER SOCIETIES.****Women's Tax Resistance League.**

Mrs. Cecil Chapman, the wife of the Metropolitan Magistrate, had goods sold at 68, Battersea-rise, for refusal to pay Imperial taxes. After the sale a big protest meeting was held. Mrs. Cecil Chapman took the chair, supported by Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Miss Constance D'Oyly, Rev. Chas. Wills, and Mrs. Merivale Meyer. Mr. John Burns, as local M.P., has received a copy of the unanimously passed resolution declaring that women are justified in refusing Imperial taxes until they have the same control over national expenditure as male taxpayers possess.

**Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage.**

At a largely-attended meeting last Sunday afternoon in the East Meadows, Edinburgh, Ex-Baile Gordon drew attention to the petition recently presented to the Bishop of Edinburgh desiring him to use his influence to prevent Suffragists from using the Church and the clergy to advance a political party question. He declared that the Suffrage question was no mere political campaign. It was a demand for human rights, affecting the moral welfare of the people. Councillor John Young, Mr. James Brunton, and Mr. Thomas Shaw also spoke. An increase to the membership of the Federation was a most satisfactory result of the meeting.

**The Men's Political Union.**

The Union has sent a Petition to the Queen sympathising with her "in the deplorable circumstances closing round the Sovereign due to the faithlessness of His Majesty's Ministers," and praying her to plead with the King to hear from Mrs. Pankhurst the condition of millions of his voteless women subjects.

**IN THE PARKS.****Hyde Park.**

Owing to the heavy rain on Sunday evening the 6 p.m. meeting had to be abandoned. Mrs. Merivale Mayer and Mrs. Juson Kerr will speak next Sunday, June 7, at 6 p.m., near the Marble Arch.

**Regent's Park.**

Miss Andrews and Mrs. Hyde were the speakers to a good audience on May 24, at the usual meeting organised by the Mid-London Branch. Mrs. Tanner spoke on May 31, and by her sheer common and lucid exposition of her subject was most successful in holding the interest and attention of her audience. Mrs. Hyde presided. Mrs. Walter Carey has kindly offered to give a beautiful embroidered banner for use at these meetings.

**WHO WILL HELP WOOLPIT?**

A Jumble Sale will be held at Woolpit on Thursday, June 18, in aid of the Birthday Fund. Mrs. Tippett will be grateful for any help. "Anything and everything" may be sent to her at Wetherden, Suffolk, or to 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND MORALITY.**

The Abolitionist Federation announces an International Conference at Portsmouth, June 15 to 18, in which "A Constructive Policy" will be discussed under the two headings of:—

"Reduction of Public Immorality."  
"Reduction of Venereal Disease."

Among the medical speakers are Dr. Santoliquido of Rome, Dr. Lomholt of Copenhagen, Dr. Rist of Paris, and Sir Victor Horsley, Dr. C. W. Saleeby, Dr. Douglas White, Dr. E. F. Skinner, Dr. Jane Walker and Dr. Helen Wilson. The other speakers include the Bishop of Winchester, Mr. Bronson Reynolds (of the American Federation of Social Hygiene), Councillor Dawson of Hull, M. Yves Guyot, and several delegates from France, Germany, Holland, etc. The Conference is notable as being almost the first attempt in this country to solve these knotty problems by consultation between administrators, medical men and social reformers. Representative Societies, Town Councils and Watch Committees are sending official delegates, and many eminent people will be present as visitors. Tickets and full particulars from Federation Secretary, 19, Tothill-street, Westminster.

**IRISH WOMEN AND THE VOTE.**—Mrs. Sheehy Skeffington and other good workers in the Irish Suffrage Movement have arranged a deputation to the Prime Minister and Mr. Redmond, to request that Votes for Women may be incorporated in the Amending Bill to the Home Rule Bill, on a local government register qualification. Other suffragists are being asked to unite in this move, and all Irishwomen in the Movement on this side of the water should feel interested in the outcome. We hope all members of our League will send in their names to Miss Sidley as willing to support the deputation, or to take part in a demonstration should the deputation not be received. The date will be towards June 10.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS. Fri., June 5.—SPENCER HALL, Dartmouth-park-hill, Social Evening arranged by Tufnell-park Branch, 8 p.m. Music and cards. Speech by Miss Anna Munro. Tickets 6d. Sun., June 7.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Nina Boyle and Mrs. Hyde. HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch), 6 p.m. Mrs. Morivalde Mayer and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Miss Anna Munro. Mon., June 8.—KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent. Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Tues., June 9.—HERNE HILL, Corner Stradella-road, Half-Moon-lane, 8 p.m. Wed., June 10.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Speakers: Mrs. Nevinson, "The New Poor-law Orders as they Affect Women," and Mrs. Tanner. Chair: Miss F. A. Underwood. Thurs., June 11.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. Miss Rushbrooke W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-street. Speakers' Class, 7 p.m. ADDISCOMBE, "Black Horse," Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. EAST LONDON, Branch Meeting, 37, Wellington-buildings, 8 p.m. Fri., June 12.—CROYDON, 32A, The Arcade, High-street, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Dr. W. M. Weston. Sat., June 13.—ANERLEY, 112, Marlow-road, Garden Party (by kind permission of Mrs. Myers), 3.30 p.m. Sun., June 14.—HYDE PARK, 6 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Morivalde Mayer and Mrs. Jusun Kerr. REGENT'S PARK, noon. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson, L.L.A. Mon., June 15.—KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Beatrice Kent. Tues., June 16.—HERNE HILL, corner Stradella-road, Half-moon-lane, 8 p.m. Wed., June 17.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Lucy H. Yates, "Women and Financial Independence." Thurs., June 18.—HIGHBURY CORNER, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Rushbrooke. W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Speakers' Class, 7 p.m. Mid-London Branch Members' Meeting, 7.30 p.m. ADDISCOMBE, "Black Horse," Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Sun., June 21.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle. Mon., June 22.—HARROW, "Rions," Northwick-park-road, Garden Party. KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent, 8 p.m. The Rev. W. J. Pigott. Wed., June 24.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Rev. Dr. W. A. Houston Collis. Subject: "Militancy," and Miss Nina Boyle. Thurs., June 25.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Sun., June 28.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mrs. Mustard and Miss Le Croissette. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Mon., June 29.—KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent, 8 p.m. Wed., July 1.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Miss Rosika Schwimmer, "What Finnish Women do for their Country," and Miss Boyle. Thurs., July 2.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. W.F.L. OFFICE, 1 Robert-street, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Sun., July 5.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Eunice Murray. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Miss Eunice Murray and Mrs. Tippett. Mon., July 6.—KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent, 8 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle.

DARE TO BE FREE.

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PROVINCES.

Fri., June 5.—Chester, Market-square, Open-air Meeting, 6.30 p.m. Miss Andrews. Sat., June 6.—Chester, Suffrage Shop, St. Werburgh-street, "Pound" Sale. Mon., June 8.—Gravesend, Miss Anna Munro. Open-air Meeting. Tues., June 9.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Caf6, Business Meeting, 8 p.m. Gravesend, Garden Meeting afternoon, Open-air Meeting evening, Miss Anna Munro. Southsea, 89, Festing-grove, Work Party, 8 p.m. Hostess: Mrs. Whetton. Ipswich, 49, Berners-street, President's Birthday Party. Wed., June 10.—Gravesend, Women's Meeting afternoon, Open-air Meeting evening, Miss Anna Munro. Thurs., June 11.—Winchester, Open-air Meeting. Gravesend, Open-air Meeting. Miss Anna Munro. Fri., June 12.—Gravesend, Public Meeting, 8.15 p.m. Miss Anna Munro and Mr. Laurence Housman and others. Mon., June 15.—Middlesbrough, Open-air Meeting. Speaker: rs. Schofield Coates. Reading, Miss Anna Munro. Thurs., June 18.—Woolpit, Jumble Sale. Proceeds to Birthday Fund. Thurs., June 25.—Winchester, Open-air Meeting. Mon., July 6.—Middlesbrough, Open-air Meeting. Speaker: Rev. A. Scruton.

SCOTLAND.

Sat., June 6.—Ayr, Open-air Meeting, 3 p.m. Miss Shennan and Miss Johnston. Dumbarton, Bridge-street, Open-air Meetings, 3.30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Mon., June 8.—Paisley, Abbey Close, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Tues., June 9.—Clydebank, Canal-street, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. —Kilmarnock, Open-air Meeting. Miss Eunice Murray.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Sun., June 7.—BLACKFRIARS MISSION, Stamford-street, The Men's Club Room, 3.30 p.m. Miss Anna Munro, "Religion and the Women's Movement." Sat., June 20.—ROYAL HOLLOWAY COLLEGE, Englefield-green. Miss Nina Boyle. Subject: "The Reform Bills." Sun., June 21.—KINGSTON HUMANITARIAN SOCIETY, Fife Hall, Fife-road, 7 p.m. Speaker: Miss Underwood. Subject: "Women and Independence."

Women's Freedom League.

BRANCH AND GROUP SECRETARIES.

BRANCHES—LONDON.

Bowes Park.—Miss TODD, 34, Highworth-road, New Southgate, N. Bromley, Kent.—Mrs. HOPE, "Kissilano," King's-avenue, Bromley, Kent. Clapham.—Miss G. POPPLETON, 53, Torrion-road, Clapham, S.E. Clapham.—Miss UNDERWOOD, 1, Imperial-missions, Bromells-road, Clapham. Croydon.—Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue, Croydon. East London.—Miss NIXON, "Glencoe," Queen's-road, Loughton, Essex. Hackney.—Mrs. PIERCE, 31, Walsingham-road, Clapton, N.E. Hamstead.—Mrs. H. FEZ, 10, The Grange, Matland Park, N.W. Harrow.—Mrs. HUNTERMAN, Rions, Northwick Park-road, Harrow. Herne Hill.—Miss W. M. SPRIGGS, 69, Daneroff-road, Herne Hill. Highbury.—Miss JOHN, 11, Canonbury-park South, Canonbury, N. Hornsey (late Northern Heights).—Miss A. MASTERMAN, 40, Beatrice-road Strand Green. Kensington.—Miss REEVES, 16, Braeswell-road, N. Kensington. Mid-London.—Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Baling. Nine Elms.—Mrs. DESPARD, 2, Currie-street, Nine Elms. Northern Heights.—Miss A. McKEHILL, 17, Northwood-road, Highgate. Streatham and Thornton Heath.—Mrs. GAULD, 32, Buckleigh-road, Streatham. Tottenham and Stamford Hill.—Miss F. EGGERT, 30, Lausanne-road, Hornsey, and Mrs. THOMSON, 7, East Bank, Stamford Hill. Tufnell Park.—Miss BARROW, 202, Brecknock-road, N.

PROVINCES.

Aintree.—Mrs. SHAW, 15, Chatsworth-avenue, Aintree, Liverpool. Anfield.—Miss Davey, 51, Grey-road, Walton, Liverpool. Bourne-mouth.—Mrs. LAMBERT, 4, Alton-terrace, Tregonwell-road, Bournemouth. Brighton and Hove.—Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove, Sussex. Burnage.—Mrs. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme, Manchester. Chester.—Mrs. DU PLERONY, Suffrage Shop, 45, St. Werburgh-street, Chester. Gravesend.—Miss J. BOORMAN, 4, The Grove, Gravesend. Grays.—Mrs. TUNSTALL, 3, Heath-road, Chadwell St. Mary, near Grays, Essex. Hadleigh.—Miss MATTHEWS, 21, Fir Tree-terrace, Hadleigh. Harlow.—Mrs. ENGLISH, 23, Canton-street, West Harlow. Ipswich.—Mrs. HOSSACK, 49, Berners-street, Ipswich. Letchworth.—Miss LEE, Thistle-down, 2, Norton Way North, Letchworth. Manchester.—Miss A. E. HORDERN, 478, Stockport-road, Longsight, Manchester. Middlesbrough.—Miss A. MAYSON, 35, Albert-terrace, Middlesbrough. Portsmouth.—Mrs. WHEATON, 59, Festing Grove, Southsea. Potteries.—Mrs. PEDLEY, 18, Bower-street, Hanley, Staffs. Reading.—Mrs. PENROSE, 100, Hamilton-road, Reading. Sale.—Miss E. BRIDDON, "Greba," Harboro-road, Ashton-on-Mersey. Sheffield.—Miss J. MACDONALD, 21, Harcourt-road, Sheffield. Southampton.—Mrs. GOODTRAB, 33, Shakespear-avenue, Portwood, Southampton. South Shields.—Mrs. REVEL, 13, Hepscott-terrace, South Shields. Sunderland.—Mrs. PALLISER, 10, Fox-street, Sunderland. Wellingborough.—Miss V. SHARMAN, Ivy Lodge, Wellingborough, and Mrs. ENGLAND SMITH, Newcastle, Hatton Park, Wellingborough. Winchester.—Miss COSTA, 14, Saxon-road, Winchester.

SCOTLAND.

Broxburn.—Miss J. SKENE, 68, Pumpherston, Midcalder. Cowdenbeath.—Miss FORBES, Black-road, Kelly, Fife. Dundee.—Mrs. MITCHELL, 13, Clepington-road, Dundee. Dunfermline.—Miss MYER HEIGON, Elliot-crescent, Dunfermline. Edinburgh.—Miss JACK, 90, Lothian-road, Edinburgh. Glasgow.—Miss J. BURNER, Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road, Glasgow. Kilmarnock.—Miss CRAWFORD, 1, Fairhill-road, Kilmarnock. Lochgelly.—Miss MOPTRE, 6, School-lane, Lochgelly. Paisley.—Miss DRACUP, 10, Rowhead-terrace, Paisley. Perth.—Mrs. MACPHERSON, 3, Charlotte-street, Perth. Rothsay.—Miss GILMOUR, 5, Victoria-street, Rothsay. Scottish Scattered.—Miss G. MURRAY, Moore Park, Cardross, Dumbartonshire.

WALES.

Barry.—



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PENNY]

# THE VOTE

[WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

*The* Regent St. House of Peter Robinson Ltd.  
Court Milliners

R.S. 50



R.S. 51



R.S. 52



R.S. 53



R.S. 50. Smart Country Hat in white Bowen straw, trimmed fashionable corded velvet band and bind. Trimmed in all shades. Price 12/11

R.S. 51. Tennis Hat in imitation Panama, underlined with tegal straw and trimmed with ribbon to match. Price 14/11

R.S. 52. Dainty Hat for the River, with narrow ribbon trimming under brim, finished band and bow to match. Price 23/9

R.S. 53. Smart Sporting Hat in new corded velvet, in all shades. Price 10/6

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