

THE VOTE

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

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ONE PENNY.

NOTICE.

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EDITORIAL.

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

The Truce.

For militant Suffragists who have accepted in good faith Mr. Asquith's pledge for full facilities for the Women's Bill next year a period of truce has set in. For the moment, at least, fighting tactics have been suspended; and no one will be better pleased than the Suffragettes themselves if the necessity never arises for their resumption.

But though for the nonce, and we trust for all time, our militant weapons are sheathed, they must be ready for use at any moment if need be. In other directions, too, our efforts must not be slackened. Although Parliament and the country are practically converted to the principle of Woman Suffrage, much remains to be done in convincing politicians of the urgency of voting in Committee for the Conciliation Bill as it stands. As everybody knows, this is not exactly what the majority of Suffrage societies originally demanded. If it passes into law it will certainly not give women the Suffrage on the same terms as men. And most assuredly a very large number of the most determined and enthusiastic Suffragists will never be satisfied until every sex barrier, however slight, has been removed. Yet Suffragists of all shades of opinion in other respects are united in their insistence upon the Bill as at present drafted, for the simple reason that no other measure commands a sufficient majority in the House.

Compromise.

The very name by which it is popularly known—Conciliation Bill—demonstrates this fact. The manner of its drafting is the result of immense pains taken by our friends in and out of the House to ascertain and reconcile the various views of Members of Parliament who support the principle of Woman Suffrage. There are those who sincerely believe that every woman and man of a responsible age should be entitled to vote. A certain number of Members would grant the Suffrage on equal terms. And there are others who would confer the Parliamentary franchise only upon women of the wealthy classes. Since, however, a Bill embodying any one of these ideas would not have the very faintest chance of

being placed upon the Statute Book, every sincere Suffragist inside the House has sunk all personal feeling in the matter, and arrived at the compromise known as the Conciliation Bill. The student of affairs knows that it is ever thus in the political world—and, for the matter of that, in every other walk of life. It is seldom indeed that one's desires are fully satisfied. The surest foundation of progress is compromise. Therefore we should regard with suspicion those Members of Parliament who insist upon giving us more than we are prepared to accept; that is, more than a majority will agree to. As an instance of such false generosity we may mention the fact that a well-known Anti-Suffragist is prepared to move an amendment in Committee to the effect that women be not merely entitled to vote, but also to sit in Parliament. Members of Parliament who are sincere in their desire that women be granted the franchise will refrain from moving or supporting any amendments whatever to our Bill for the reasons stated.

Altruistic George!

Notwithstanding the arduousness of his position as Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Lloyd George occasionally finds time to remind other people of their duties. On Sunday afternoon last this indefatigable Minister not only presided at the annual floral service at the Welsh Baptist Church, Castle-street, W., but also treated the congregation to a sermon on altruism. Reform, said Mr. George, was always brought about by the people who profited nothing by the movement. "The people who received the old-age pensions were not the people who brought it about." (This, we suppose, in case anybody should forget that it was the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and no other, who, out of a spirit of undiluted altruism, dived down into his own pockets in order to replenish the empty ones of the aged poor!) "Take any reform, the extension of the franchise, for instance. The people who *moved that it should be extended* (the italics are ours) already had it, but if it had not been for them there would have been no extension. And he would say the same of the ladies. They would have the franchise through the help of the other sex, who already had it. He would tell them more than that. Reforms were won here through the aid of people who lost personally by them." From his reference to the "ladies" it would seem as though our Cabinet Minister considered there was some danger of Women Suffragists forgetting their debt to "the other sex." Let us hasten to reassure him on this point. When the franchise is won women will be the first to acknowledge the assistance received from masculine friends. True friends, Mr. George! We can promise more. When our Bill is passed, so great will be our joy that we shall e'en try to forget the ignoble part played by certain Ministers in connection with this movement. But seeing that credit must be given where credit is due, we shall, despite covert insults, Mr. George, honour above all others "those who lost personally by them." Considering, however, that the women who have suffered grievous personal loss in fighting for their weaker sisters are almost innumerable, it will be impossible to remember all of them by name. Members of Parliament who perform the prodigiously unselfish act of voting for a Bill from which they receive no direct benefit may take comfort from the fact that *their* names will be recorded for all time in the division lists of the House.

WHY WE WANT THE VOTE: THE CHILD OF THE WAGE-EARNING MOTHER.—I.

If it could speak! As it cannot, let me be the mouth-piece for it!

Not to-day, nor to-morrow, will the children now growing up be able to speak so that the world can hear. Presently, they will themselves be the world, and then, having arrived at self-consciousness, they will surely ask, "Why are we what we are, and who is responsible for the conditions that have moulded us?" When, seriously, and with full intention of being answered, any generation makes such a demand, the world in which they move will see strange things happening.

The child of the wage-earning mother!

Few, probably, have the least conception of their multitude. Some of the mothers are widows. Already, in this series, I have spoken of the difficulties and hardships of the working widow, and I have tried to show how fatally inadequate is the help that is given to her by the community. But the child of the wage-earning mother may have a father; and he also may be earning his living out of doors. In the great manufacturing towns of Lancashire and Yorkshire, whole families will be engaged at the factories. Mothers will take brief respite before and after their babes are born, and will rush to the mills again as soon as it is possible, and the tiny scrap of humanity that has come unwanted into the busy hive of workers has to live as it may and can. Puny and sad-eyed many of these babes are; but the condition of the little ones whose mothers do not go to work daily is, too often, not much better, for lack of air and of hope and of good food prevents a mother from having the nourishment her infant needs.

Again, when the child has risen out of the ranks of babyhood, how does it fare generally when the mother is a wage-earner?

Very early in life it learns to shift for itself. And extraordinarily, almost comically, independent are some of these small children who run about the streets in the working quarters of our great towns, picking up anything, sharing the hurriedly prepared and often unwholesome meals of their elders, learning, while their palates are yet tender, to like strong tea and pickles and bloaters! In the course of my long experience with myriads of small friends, I have had to teach children to drink warm milk and to enjoy sweet puddings.

Come to the child of school age—and I speak chiefly now of manufacturing districts—the girl-child, when quite young, has practically no play-time. The little ones, the babies, helping granny in the housework, running errands, and too often carrying heavy loads from the shop to her home fill up her leisure. She wearies of it all, and looks forward impatiently to the moment when, even as a half-timer, she can join the crowds that press into the factories, when she can earn her money, be it only half-a-crown a week, as mother does, and bring it home to the common stock.

It is this little girl—and probably she will marry early—who is destined to be the mother of workers, men and women, of those on whom this country depends for the building up of her commercial wealth.

I think the fact that she has survived at all is a proof of the extraordinary vitality of our race.

But, our opponents will say, what upon earth has all this to do with the vote? Do not men wish to exclude married women from the factories, and to send

them back to their own proper work, the management of their homes and the care of their children?

I know that such a movement is on foot, that it is led by male trade unionists and patronised by a Cabinet Minister.

In the name of those very children for whom I am appealing I protest against the form which this demand is taking. In the name of their mothers, I recall to the memory of those male trade unionists how their own first triumphs were won.

As free and independent citizens, conscious of their importance to the State, determined to make their point of view felt, they went forward on their great enterprise. And they are winning along the whole line. Not yet, indeed, have all grievances been redressed. But this at least they have done. Through the power of their citizenship, and through the wholesome fear they have implanted in the breasts of politicians, they have succeeded in establishing for almost all great industries a trade union rate of wages which no public body dares to ignore.

And yet, some of these very men, for the sake, they would doubtless say piously, of those feeble persons, the women, would pass laws regulating and restricting their labour without the least reference to them. It was said by an anti-suffragist speaker the other day, in the course of a great suffrage debate, that, so far from being unfair to women, the legislation of recent years, wherever it touched upon her interests, had been a positive caress.

To which we, the women legislated for, answer: There are caresses which are insults, and much of your legislation, especially as it regards the wage-earning mother and her children, is of this nature.

Since, however, the subject is an exceedingly large one, branching off in many directions, I must reserve what I have to say in justification of this opinion for our next issue.

C. DESPARD.

TAX RESISTANCE AT WOLVERHAMPTON.

On June 20, Mrs. Sproson was sent to prison for five weeks by the Wolverhampton magistrates, the charges against her being: keeping a dangerous dog, not having a ferocious dog under proper control, and keeping a dog without a licence. Mr. Sproson was also summoned for aiding and abetting his wife.

Mrs. Sproson asked that her cases might be taken separately, and on the first charge pleaded "Not guilty, in justice to the dog." Evidence was brought that the dog had bitten two children on the first occasion, which was admitted by Mrs. Sproson; the dog was tied up on the lawn of Mrs. Sproson's house, and therefore under proper control. Mrs. Sproson's little son and another child were teasing "Gyp," and when Mrs. Sproson found the trio the dog was at the bottom of a confused heap of three. The mother of the little boy acknowledged, in answer to a question from Mrs. Sproson, that she would not have brought the case into court "on her own part," but that she had been urged to do so by others.

The second case, which was not admitted by Mrs. Sproson, was that of a little girl of five. No one had seen the child bitten, and even the doctor's evidence as to the mark having been caused by a dog's teeth seemed to many in the court far from conclusive. After several witnesses had been called and cross-examined by Mrs. Sproson, she said, "In any case, gentlemen, this is a case post mortem; the dog died yesterday—(laughter)—its death is part of the campaign of persecution which has been at work against me for the last four years." (Cries of "Shame!") In consequence of the death of the dog the first charge was dismissed. On the second, Mrs. Sproson was fined 5s. and costs, or in default seven days; she refused to pay. The charge of keeping a dog without a licence was admitted, and the sentence was 25s. and costs, or in default one month's imprisonment. Mrs. Sproson chose to go to prison.

Mr. Sproson was then summoned for aiding and abetting his wife, part of the evidence against him being that he had taken the chair at the two meetings of protest held in the

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AT HEADQUARTERS.

"Gardenia" Meetings.—Our friends would greatly assist us by making these discussion meetings as widely known as possible; Wednesday, July 5, Miss Nina Boyle, of the Women's Enfranchisement League, Johannesburg, who was a delegate at the recent International Suffrage Congress in Stockholm, has kindly promised to speak on this Congress. We are very fortunate in securing Miss Boyle, and hope that the audience will be a large one.

Wednesday, July 12, Mrs. Despard will speak on "Clinics and Open-air Schools." All interested in the welfare of children and modern educational methods should make certain of keeping this date free to hear our President on one of her favourite subjects.

July 19.—Mrs. How Martyn will lecture on "The Economic Status of Married Women," and this, in view of the way in which the State Insurance Bill proposes to ignore married women, should attract a large number.

July 26.—Mrs. Drysdale, the Women's Freedom League's delegate at the recent Congress at Stockholm, will lecture on "Emancipation and Motherhood," and we would advise not only Suffragists, but all Anti-Suffragists, who have the courage to attend Women's Suffrage meetings, to come to this one. The chair will be taken punctually at 8 p.m. at these "Gardenia" meetings. Admission is free, but reserved seats are 1s. each.

Open-Air Meetings.—Miss Turner will be very glad to hear from all speakers, both in and out of London, who will help to make our summer campaign a success. We shall make the greatest possible mistake if we slacken our efforts before the Women's Enfranchisement Bill is safely on the Statute Book.

"Vote" Sellers.—Our paper must be sold, and we urgently need street sellers in London and throughout England, Scotland and Wales. Volunteers please send in your names to 1, Robert-street at once, for this part of our work is of the greatest importance at the present time.

Branch "At Homes."—Instead of the usual Caxton Hall meetings we propose during the autumn and winter months to hold one "At Home" in every district in London in which we have a branch. Branch secretaries and treasurers are therefore asked to make inquiries in their neighbourhood as to suitable halls and communicate results to headquarters. It is not intended that the branches shall be burdened with the expenses of these "At Homes" providing that the members will work hard to obtain a thoroughly good audience and insure the success of the experiment. As we should prefer to have only one of the "At Homes" each week, we hope to have early applications with full particulars and choice of dates from our various branches. This also will enable the "At Homes" to be fully advertised in advance.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

THE SUFFRAGISTS' PROCESSION.—Would any member of the Suffragist Procession, or spectator, who SAW MAN ARRESTED in Pall Mall kindly volunteer an account to E. M. S., c.o. THE VOTE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi.

Market-square against Mrs. Sproson's first imprisonment. Mrs. Sproson gave evidence in his defence. The dog was really hers, and when the question of the licence first came up, she told her husband, "If you dispose of the dog on your own behalf, I shall look upon you as a tyrant, and not as a husband; and if the authorities order you to dispose of it, and you do, I shall get another dog."

"If," said Mr. Sproson, "I had said to you, you must either dispose of the dog, pay the licence, or leave the house, what would you do?" Mrs. Sproson: "I would leave the house."

Mr. Sproson was fined 2s. 6d. and costs, or in default seven days' imprisonment. He gave notice that he would appeal against the decision.

In the afternoon Mrs. Sproson left for Stafford Gaol from the High Level Station, and a large crowd of sympathisers gathered to give her a send-off.

On Wednesday evening a well-attended and most sympathetic meeting was held in Market-square, Mr. Finlayson being in the chair. Miss Manning, B.A., said that she had a message for the people of Wolverhampton from the National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League. The women of Wolverhampton had the honour of having kept the flag flying till the last; Mrs. Sproson would probably be the last political prisoner in this agitation. The executive had accepted Mr. Asquith's pledge as satisfactory, and unless it were broken, there would be no more protests of this kind. But though they had shown themselves ready to forgive and forget, the authorities had not done so. She thought that as the women were ready to hold their hands, the Home Secretary might remit Mrs. Sproson's sentence. Had she considered the charge of keeping a ferocious dog proven, she would, on behalf of the executive, have counselled Mrs. Sproson to pay the fine for that part of the sentence; but she considered that the evidence was inconclusive, and that there had been a serious miscarriage of justice. With regard to Mr. Sproson's case, surely it was a piece of feudalism, a strange working of the old law of coverture that a married woman could not make a political protest without involving her husband. "Votes for Women" would change the anomalous position of the wife.

One question only was put after the address, which was so ably answered by Mr. Sproson that the questioner lost no time in taking to his heels, and the meeting ended in a round of hearty applause.

EDMEE MANNING.

When the news of Mrs. Sproson's imprisonment reached us the following letter was taken by hand to the Home Secretary:—

June 21, 1911.

SIR,—Allow me to draw your attention to the following facts. On May 23, Mrs. Sproson, a member of our National Executive Committee, was sentenced to a week's imprisonment in the third division for refusing to pay imperial taxes in the form of a dog license as a passive protest against women's unenfranchised condition.

Yesterday, June 20, after having served the above sentence in Stafford Gaol, Mrs. Sproson was again tried for the same offence and sentenced to one month's imprisonment in the first division. She was also summoned on a further charge of keeping a ferocious dog, and was sentenced to one week's imprisonment in the third division, thus making five weeks' imprisonment, as the sentences are to run consecutively. In asking your consideration of these sentences, I would call your attention to the fact that the dog had been destroyed before the case was heard. In these circumstances these sentences are harsh and vindictive, and entirely opposed to the spirit of the recent regulations introduced by you dealing with the treatment of prisoners whose principles have led them into a breach of the law.

After thus treating Mrs. Sproson as a fully responsible person, the police have prosecuted her husband for aiding and abetting her, although they knew that Mrs. Sproson had acted entirely independently of her husband. He was sentenced to a week's imprisonment. Notice of appeal in Mr. Sproson's case was immediately given, but he was informed that appeal cannot be granted. Such an application of the law of coverture immediately after imprisoning his wife is both illogical and immoral, and a gross miscarriage of justice, calling for immediate redress, and we feel assured will receive your immediate personal attention.—Yours faithfully,

C. DESPARD,

EDITH HOW MARTYN.

So far only an official acknowledgment has been received, but Mr. Churchill will surely have something to say to magistrates who give a month's imprisonment for non-payment of a licence, and then vindictively make the sentences run consecutively. Will members write to their local Members of Parliament drawing attention to Mrs. Sproson's case and asking him to see Mr. Churchill about the matter, and also send to the local paper a marked copy of this number of THE VOTE?

EDITH HOW MARTYN.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

Our four newest pamphlets, with which all Suffragists should equip themselves, are:—"This Monstrous Regiment of Women," by Ford Madox Hueffer (6d., post free 7½d.); "Josephine Butler, a Cameo Life-Sketch," by Mrs. Holmes (2d., post free 2½d.); "Votes for Women, and the Public Health," by Dr. L. Haden Guest (1d., post free 1½d.); "Colonial Statesmen and Votes for Women—Lord Curzon Answered" (1d., post free 1½d.). Remember, too, that during July only we shall have on a special sale of literature, and write for sale list.

(Mrs.) EILEEN MITCHELL.



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WOMEN UNDER THE NATIONAL INSURANCE BILL.

CONTINUED.—III.

MARRIED WOMEN AND MATERNITY BENEFIT.

A new disability against marriage is imposed by the drafting of this Bill in that all women who marry and cease to be direct wage-earners are expressly excluded from sickness, medical, disablement and sanatorium benefit, no matter what may be the total of their contributions compulsorily paid during their working days before marriage and compulsorily forfeited on marriage.

Mr. Chiozza Money wrote, in an article in *The Daily News*, May 12, of this Bill: "the real effect of the scheme is to insure the whole of the population under the income tax line." This is one of the observations that startle thinking women into reflecting how supremely important it is for women to represent women when a man of Mr. Money's undoubted ability considers "the whole of the population insured," with seven million working wives and mothers expressly left out!

The married woman's husband receives maternity benefit against his contributions, roughly, 30s., on his wife's confinement. I have seen a good deal about the "recognition of the sacred principle of motherhood," and the "generosity" of the framers of the Bill in charging the men's funds with the cost of maternity benefit for women. Neither statement is wholly accurate.

The only principle fully recognised in this Bill is cash payment. It is impossible to say more than that the "principle of motherhood" is partially recognised, when the benefit is directly in proportion to the amount and number of contributions paid by or on behalf of the woman. If a woman has made no cash payment (i.e., is not "an insured person") she receives nothing if she becomes a mother. The amount (if any) to be received by a married woman (who is prohibited from being "an insured person," unless a worker within the meaning of the Act) is dependent on her husband's payments, thus:—

"VII.—No insured person shall be entitled to maternity benefit unless and until twenty-six or in the case of a voluntary contributor fifty-two contributions have been paid by or in respect of him."

"Benefit Rates may be Reduced, (IV) . . . "to such reduced rate" . . . in accordance with Tables to be prepared, "but not less for Maternity Benefit than 15s."

Cl. 12, (i) "No payment shall be made in respect of . . . maternity benefit to any insured person when inmate of any workhouse, hospital, infirmary supported by public authority, funds or charity, or sanatorium or similar institution."

But in this case the payment is paid or applied to dependents as the society or committee think fit, so that if the man were in hospital or other institution at such time, his wife would be granted such relief as thought fit as his dependent.

Cl. 32, (b). A woman Post Office depositor or the wife of one whose funds are exhausted by arrears or benefits, or the man's own previous benefits, would receive nothing at the time of confinement, and under Cl. 10, (i) if payment is in arrear greater than thirteen contributions a year on the average since entry into insurance, the woman receives no maternity benefit.

Cl. 16, (ii) states that this benefit "shall be expended as prescribed," and it is being said that this means it will not be paid in cash, either to the woman or her husband, but in kind only; possibly some discretion will be left here to those administering the benefit, but undoubtedly in the majority of cases the woman recipient is the best person to decide what she most needs.

It is further said (but it is not in the Bill as drawn) that this benefit is only given on condition that the woman, if "an insured person," does not return to

work for four weeks after birth. The Bill states: "No maternity benefit shall be paid if the mother has failed to comply with such conditions as may be prescribed." If the benefit is to be of any assistance at all, it must be given at latest on notification of birth. However, the penalty for contravention of or non-compliance with any regulations made under this Act is on summary conviction a fine not exceeding £10, or for making any false statement or representation for the purpose of obtaining benefit, either for oneself or another, imprisonment on summary conviction not exceeding three months, with or without hard labour.

Finally, an insured woman is excused (Cl. 10, [iv] [b]), two weeks' arrears before and four weeks' after confinement. As, however, no person need pay while "temporarily unemployed," (Cl. 4, [iii]) though they may, if they like) this only amounts to two weeks—value at most, 6d.!

An "insured person" is deprived of her right, for which she has paid, to free medical attendance and medicine at this time, just when she most requires it. A wage-earning mother would be worse off during the time of her confinement than during any other illness. If she sprained her ankle, she would receive free doctoring and medicine and 7s. 6d. a week for thirteen weeks if necessary, commencing from the fourth day after notice is given while "rendered unfit to provide for her own maintenance." If she becomes a mother, she is deprived of free medical attendance and medicine at her confinement and for four weeks afterwards; or fined for presenting this class of illness. This 30s. or "such reduced rate" from 15s. upwards, has got to cover doctor and medicine, any help necessary and four weeks' living in the case of a working mother, so that in the only class of illness we do not desire to stamp out and see the last of, the patient is to be treated worse than any other. This is a truly masculine point of view.

The Bill states (Cl. 16 [i]) "if the mother is herself an insured person maternity benefit shall be treated as a benefit for her . . . if she is not . . . as a benefit for her husband." The effect of this is to charge the women's funds with maternity benefits for all births in cases where the mother is herself an insured person, and the men's funds with all births in cases where the woman is (1) married, (2) non wage-earner, (3) married to an insured person. The whole of the illegitimate births in respect to which maternity benefit is payable are thus thrown on the women's funds, and also those when the woman, though married, goes to work and is compulsorily herself "an insured person," having the contribution deducted from her wages.

Obviously, the only fund that can supply a maternity benefit to married women working in the home and not allowed to insure is a fund contributed to by the husband. It would have been too much for public opinion to have saddled the women's funds with maternity benefit for women not allowed to contribute, but as much as possible has been charged up. Is it just that the women's funds should be charged with the whole expense of maternity benefit for illegitimate births? We will, without entering into any question of morals at all, hold the woman equally responsible with the man, and it at once appears that the man being equally responsible with the woman, the men's funds should be charged each year with at least half the amount of the maternity benefit found chargeable to the women's funds. It is too much to ask that men should escape responsibility in every way for the consequences of their acts. I suggest half, but consider the men's funds should pay the maternity benefit for the whole country, as the men's contribution to the Empire.

I hope to refer to the position of domestic servants and women in business houses in my next article.

LEAH ANSON.

THE world has faults, glaciers have crevasses, mountains have chasms; but is not the effect of the whole sublime?—*Meredith.*

ON MY LIBRARY TABLE.

SUFFRAGETTE SALLY, by G. Colmore (Stanley Paul and Co., 31, Essex-street, Strand, W.C.). Price 6s.

Years hence, when the story of the great movement towards the political emancipation of women comes to be written on the pages of history, the true meaning of militancy in this connection—its inspiration and genesis, its brave stand against the arrayed powers, its sacrifices, and its ultimate triumph—will be appreciated and understood by those who will have reaped the harvest of freedom. Meanwhile, education on the *raison d'être* of militancy is sadly needed by many who have been content to look on and to be swayed in their judgment this way and that by the imperfect, untruthful and biased accounts of the campaign which have appeared in the public press.

"Suffragette Sally" is a novel with a purpose, but it is nevertheless a fascinating story. Sally is a maid-of-all-work in a suburban household, who, by chance, wanders into a hall where a suffrage meeting is being held, and becomes enamoured of the speakers and the cause. How she learns and works and fights and suffers and, in the end, how she makes the supreme sacrifice of life itself, is told in thrilling language, while, interwoven with the story of Sally, is a vivid and stirring account of the various phases of the militant movement.

The writer possesses the saving grace of humour, and her description of "Bilkes" is Dickensonian in its clever portrayal of the self-satisfied smug lower-middle-class type of individual who is so unaccustomed to contradiction in his own household that he has come to regard himself as a domestic potentate with a divine right to be as stupid, foolish and unreasonable as his fancy dictates.

Mr. Bilkes had a partiality for port. He said it was a good, old-fashioned English liquor, and for his part he liked things that were old-fashioned, and, above all, English. New-fangled ideas and revolutionary politics, these he was dead against, such as the Licensing Bill and the suffragettes. Mrs. Bilkes, the elder, agreed with him; so did the three unmarried Miss Bilkes; so did the sister who was a wife. The sister who was a widow, and whose husband had died of the horrors, was inclined to think that something should be done to stop people getting as much drink as they had a craving for; as regards the suffragettes, she sided with Ben—they were a parcel of hussies. As a matter of fact, everybody sided with Ben, except, sometimes, his brother-in-law, Ned White; but his dissent was usually silent until he was alone with his wife.

Sally leaves the Bilkes' household in disgrace, because she has the courage to take up the cudgels in too literal a way in defence of a suffragette who has gone to gaol, and whose "disgraceful conduct" is being criticised in rough language by the redoubtable Bilkes. Her wholehearted adherence to the cause also results in the loss of her sweetheart, "Joe," who gets tired of waiting for her and takes up with Mary Ann Dobbs. When "Joe" leaves her, Sally has a few moments of weakness.

Sally tried to think of the women who were "put upon," but they seemed far away; it was her own womanhood that was insistent in her. And she thought of Lady Henry and Rachel Cullen, and of all the women who had gone through the hunger strike; but "was it worth while?" came side by side with the thought to-night. And those other women who had been fed by force, who, at this very minute, as she stood by the kitchen table, were living through the scenes that Sally had had described to her. It all seemed far away, unreal, a sort of dream, and not a pleasant one. The reality was Joe, and Joe's arms and kisses, and the home she might have had. Somehow she had thought that he would wait for her, till she was ready, till the vote was won and she was free to settle down. She had taken him with a high hand in the days before she went to prison; had told him he could take her or leave her, feeling so sure that he would choose the taking—at such time as suited her, thinking that he understood why she had to wait, and was willing to take his share in the sacrifice. But he didn't care enough, either for her or the cause; he wouldn't wait. Yet, was he to blame? Hardly. Sally, longing after him, seeing him at his dearest, recognised nevertheless that she had put too great a strain upon his steadfastness, and exonerated him from blame. "E ain't got no 'ero's blood in 'im," she said to herself; "an' if it ain't inside a man when he's born, 'tain't no good tryin' to pour it in after." Then she sat down in the chair that Joe had sat in, and put her hands before her face and cried.



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The author shows fine descriptive powers in her pictures of the deputations, processions and arrests, and in her scenes of prison life. Sometimes the latter seem almost too realistic, and if the reader did not know that they are in every case drawn from actual occurrences, he would be tempted to ask, "Can these things be?" There is no exaggeration, however; only a sympathetic setting down of incidents in one of the greatest struggles for liberty that the world has ever known. In an after-word the author writes:

This is a story which cannot be finished now. The happenings in it, in so far as they have to do with matters political, with prisons and public meetings and turmoil in the streets, are true happenings; and the end has not happened yet. Whether that end will come before more women have died in what is called cheap martyrdom, is a question the answer to which lies hid in the unborn months. It may be that to the women of England will be given that which is already possessed by England's Colonies, while there is still some little grace in the giving. It may be that the forces of strife have done their work, and that wisdom will lead the way to peace. It may be that God, riding no more upon the storm, will plant His footsteps on the heaving sea, and say to the waves, "Peace; be still," so that the tide may come in gently. It is bound to come in, since the forces of evolution are stronger even than the force which draws the material tide; it may not pause in its coming; but till it has reached its appointed place, the end of this book cannot be written.

We feel that a debt of gratitude is due to the author for the valuable literary contribution she has made to the cause of woman's suffrage, and we earnestly hope that the trend of political events may make possible the appearance of a happy sequel to the story in the near future.

LOUISA THOMSON-PRICE.

MISS GRACE LEAHY, Lisbon, writes:—"The Portuguese Government has appointed Senhora Donna Leonor Amelia da Silva as Sub-Inspector of Public Health in Oporto. This is the first time in the history of Portugal that such a public and important position has ever been bestowed upon a woman."

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
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SATURDAY, July 1, 1911.

WOMAN IN THE NATIONS.

The great pageant is over. The new King and Queen have been solemnly crowned. The people, the troops, the decorations, the flags, the barriers, the stands, with their gaudy coverings, have passed or are passing away. The country returns to her sober mood, and the ordinary business of life goes on. To some of us, perhaps, with a difference! The opening of a new reign, like the beginning of a life, or the first day in a New Year, has a certain symbolical meaning. It is a milestone on the road along which we are travelling. With it something of the old seems to pass away, something of the new to dawn.

Another and a no less striking event has marked these few last days of festival. While London was preparing for the Coronation pageant, the impressive pageant of women swept through her streets. Let us take these together, and try to unravel their true meaning.

The Coronation pageant! Here the first and deepest note struck was that of Internationalism. The kings and princes, the men and women of distinguished service, the vast waiting crowds, came together from many lands. Not only Britain's daughter-colonies and her Eastern Empire, the sister-races that own her sway, but many other nations were represented in this vast Festival of Peace. Military men, indeed, making a brave show, guarded the streets, but the real work was done by the police; goodwill reigned everywhere.

And the next note was Vision.

For I dipped into the Future, far as human eye could see,
 Saw the vision of the world and all the wonder that would be;
 Far along the world-wide whisper of the south wind, rushing warm,
 With the standards of the peoples rushing thro' the thunder-storm;

Till the war-drum throbb'd no longer, and the battle-flags were furled
 In the Parliament of Man, the Federation of the World.

This—the vision of the Holy Ones—ran through the pageantry and gave it dignity.

But it is in the other pageant, the Woman's Procession, which symbolised the ordered growth and consolidation of what will be known to history as the Awakening of Woman, that many of us found the promise of the vision's fulfilment, that many of us saw the opening of a new world-cycle.

Here, too, the note of Internationalism was struck. We were reminded at every step in our progress that ours is no isolated revolt, but that everywhere, all over the world, women are rebelling against the unnatural subjection in which they have been held, that they are banding themselves together to recover the royal gift of independence, without which they cannot truly serve their generation. Surely no great gift of imagination is required to be able to see in this Woman's Procession, even more clearly than in the Coronation pageant, a vision of the future? "The Parliament of Man" (the dual humanity), "the Federation of the World" under "the Standards of the Peoples."

Some have said that the Procession meant more; that, since the victory is already won, it was the celebration of triumph. When we are finally granted what is, indeed, our right, there will be no call for exaltation; rather the appeal-cries for work, under new and better conditions, will be sent forth. Meanwhile, if we consider what is actually taking place now, we shall not dare to be confident that the battle is over.

On the one hand we read of Coronation honours being widely distributed—to men! Looking over the names of the long list of worthies who have deserved

so well of their country as to be specially rewarded by the King, we have found no woman's name. And yet, during these last few years, we have heard again and again of women's distinguished service. In art, in literature, in music, in science, in education, they have deservedly won recognition; indeed, in several cases they have carried off the palm from men. Because they are women, and not citizens, they are left out of the list of honours.

This may mean merely omission through forgetfulness. There is a darker side to our picture. While the nation is making festival, while many Suffragists are rejoicing, one of our truest and most trusted comrades is languishing in prison. On the day before the Coronation we heard, to our amazement and distress, that, for not paying her dog-licence and for keeping a ferocious dog, Mrs. Sprosson, of Wolverhampton, has been given four weeks' imprisonment in the first division and one week in the third. Her husband, for aiding and abetting her, has been given seven days'. In the case of Mr. Sprosson an appeal was demanded, but the Court refused to grant it.

This is what is happening in our rejoicing, happy country. These are the ways of men's justice to women! We of the Women's Freedom League have placed the facts before the Home Secretary, and demanded his immediate intervention. Seeing, however, that we are not citizens, only Suffragist women, we have but faint hope of substantial redress. Of this, however, our readers will hear more. For we do not intend to let it drop. Meanwhile, we hope and pray that the time will shortly come when our statesmen and politicians will be wise enough to see that a fire is not to be put out by feeding it with oil and faggots, but by taking away the substance upon which it is feeding.

The fire that burns to-day in the heart of womanhood, leading women to do and dare and endure for their cause, is kindled on the same hearth as is the patriotism of the man, the passion of the world-redeemer, and that which quickens it to a white-heat is injustice and oppression. In the two great pageants of the 17th and the 22nd we have discerned, not the dying down of the fire of our revolt, but a hope that the opening cycle of peace will usher in those new relations between man and woman which will enable them to build up a new order.

The old order passeth, giving place to new,
 And God fulfils Himself in many ways,
 Lest one good custom should corrupt the world.

C. DESPARD.

AT THE REHEARSAL THEATRE.

A clever and interesting entertainment was given by the Actresses' Franchise League at the Rehearsal Theatre, on Thursday, June 20. The programme included three short plays—"Of Two Opinions," a spirited dialogue between two girls, each of whom claims to be charming, one by love of sport, suffragism, fun and frolic, the other by eschewing these and trying to be sweetly womanly. The first is the winner in the game and the second, when she realises that the prize has been allotted to her friend, returns to her old ways. The next was a painful, but, alas! too true, story, "Compensation." A work-girl, terribly injured in an accident in her work, comes to the office of the assurance company to have her claim settled. This part is admirably played by Miss Winifred Mayo. I have met that poor work-girl. Her ignorance, her sad patience, and her terrible humility have filled me with indignant sorrow. Of course, she is cheated. It is a tribute to the power of the little play, and the truth of its rendering, that several of us were seized with a longing to shake courage into the girl, and to kick every one in the office, especially the chief claim inspector, taken by Mr. Rupert Harvey.

The third play, "Miss Appleyard's Awakening," shows us a convert to suffragism, made by an anti-suffragist, and introduces us to some of the methods followed by our opponents when they are out hunting for signatures to petitions. Mrs. Crabtree—admirably rendered by Miss Agnes Finlay—seemed to be true to the life. The suffragist audience enjoyed it heartily.

We congratulate the Actresses' Franchise League on the judicious blending of instruction and amusement which gives value to these entertainments. Behind every one of the plays there is a lesson which men, as well as women, would do well to learn.

C. D.

MEETING AT KENSINGTON TOWN HALL.

Owing to the pressure upon our space in the last issue of THE VOTE we were obliged to hold over the account of the packed and enthusiastic meeting held at the Kensington Town Hall after the procession. Mrs. How Martyn was in the chair. The following resolution moved by Mrs. Despard was passed unanimously:—

That this meeting of representative women accepting Mr. Asquith's statement as a pledge on the part of the Government that full facilities will be given to the Women's Enfranchisement Bill next Session, regrets that Women's Suffrage does not take precedence of any other legislation, and pledges itself to continue the agitation with unabated vigour until the Bill becomes law.

A second resolution protesting against the injustice meted out to women under the Insurance Bill was also passed without a dissentient.

Below will be found excerpts from the principal speeches.



THE GREAT PROCESSION—SOME OF THE W.F.L. BANNERS.

Mrs. How Martyn.

I hope this is the last, as certainly it has been the finest, procession in which we take part. I certainly feel that I can say to you quite definitely that it will be victory next year. I would very much rather have been able to say victory this year. I am going to begin by reading to you the reply which was sent yesterday evening by Mr. Asquith to Lord Lytton.

Now, it certainly seems as though Mr. Asquith's letter contained everything we could possibly expect. To those of us who have been for some years working strenuously in this movement, it seems as though we have suddenly sailed into smooth waters; but I would remind you that when sailing on a river you come to very smooth waters it is always a sign that you should be careful, because a little lower down the river there is probably a waterfall, and you may have a very unfortunate experience in shooting those rapids. Now, next year, when our Bill gets into Committee stage, it will be the time which is most critical and most dangerous, and I only say this to emphasize the point that now is the very worst time that we can afford to rest on our oars.

I ask myself, as you probably do, why this year's delay? I think our attitude towards Mr. Asquith should be as the attitude of some of the Trojans, who feared the Greeks most when they came bringing gifts. I think we should do well to beware of Mr. Asquith when he seems to come to us with a gift in his hand. I believe myself that he thinks that in that year he may perhaps kill us with kindness. He thinks perhaps we

shall be so pleased with the prospect of being enfranchised next year that we shall forget that we must keep ourselves as ready for the fight as though we did not think victory was coming. We shall not only have to increase our meetings and all the ordinary methods of propaganda, but we shall have to keep every weapon of militancy that we have ever used quite bright and shining and ready for service, and I think, too, in order to keep the public still more wide awake, we shall have to devise new methods of propaganda. And to those who are interested in getting to work politically in their own constituencies I want to say that we have to keep in the minds of Members of Parliament that we must keep up our majority right through the Committee stage. And if you happen to live in the constituency of a Member who favours Adult Suffrage, who is very sad lest the married women should be left out of women's enfranchisement, you must remind him that Mr. Lloyd George has not hesitated to leave the married women out of the Insurance Bill, and that what we want the Members of Parliament to do is if their favourite amendments are lost to then support the Conciliation Bill in its present shape, which we believe is the only shape which can be got through this House of Commons.

Mrs. Despard.

I wish to congratulate you members of the Women's Freedom League very heartily indeed on the part you have taken in this great demonstration in the streets of London to-day. I think we must all congratulate ourselves, all the societies that have met together in this way to show their interest in the cause not of women's suffrage alone but the recovery of women's independence, on the reception we have met with in the streets of London to-day. That it was not a reception granted to individuals I gathered from many of the remarks that I heard as I went along, such remarks as "Stick it." That is London vernacular, and very good vernacular, too. And that is a thing that in the days to come we must all remember. "Good luck to you"; "God bless you"; "Keep going." These are the remarks which prove to me not only that those people were out to see a show, as they will be out next week, but also that they had some idea of that which this thing means.

I thank more than I can possibly express those who have thrown such work and such energy into the task of preparing for this great demonstration. There are so many who have helped that it is absolutely impossible to mention many names, but I must mention the woman who has taken the lead, who has managed and organised, and done it splendidly, quietly and well—Miss Le Messurier. (Cheers.)

I hope there was no one of us present in the demonstration who did not have at the back of their minds what it is that we

are working for. We have had our last procession as suppliants at the gate; our next will be one of triumph. This is a day of gladness and joy, and I am not going to make any gloomy prognostications; but indeed, we must keep our powder dry. That is the part of all good soldiers, and we must hold ourselves together and play the watching game. Very often we have been disappointed, and now, at this present moment, legislation which imports much to us is being passed over our heads. To say nothing of the Insurance Bill, there is a rumour of what they call an Electoral Reform Bill that is going to pass this Session. They are going to amend the franchise laws for men while this great injustice is still done to us, and I say that this is abominable. Then in the present Budget we are told there is to be provision for payment of Members, and we women are to pay those who do not propose or intend to serve us at all. These things make us feel that we must have our eyes open.

However, friends, I am going to turn aside altogether from the present, and for a few moments make use of this great opportunity you have given me to speak to you on this joyful occasion, and I want to say something of what to me is the very greatest thing in the present century—the general awakening of women. I do not know whether it has ever struck you as it has struck me, over and over again, in a very poignant way, that by far the greater number of the miseries and the unsolved problems, by far the greater part of the degradation which humanity is suffering, arises from the false and unnatural relations between men and women. Our opponents are very fond of quoting a verse from Genesis, but if they understood it properly they would understand it as an argument for us. Texts from the Bible are used without their context, and we are told that it was said in the beginning to the woman: "Thy desire shall be unto thy husband, and he shall rule over thee." But when people quote that they do not realise that that was given, not as a blessing, but a curse. It was the result of the breaking of a law which always results in misery. Blessings are natural; the blessing of the sunshine and the rain and the snow, and the grand things in the earth—all these are natural and beautiful. Our opponents say that the dependence of woman is beautiful and necessary; they forget that the loss of woman's royal independence came into the world as a withering curse. And as our civilisation is becoming more and more complex, as men are more and more arrogating to themselves all the work that means anything in the world, it seems to me that this dependence is getting greater, and woman is getting more and more handicapped to bear and to rear a fine and a glorious race. My friends, if you will only believe it, this is the force that is behind our movement; this is the meaning of that scroll that seems so hard to read. It is not only in our own country. It may take different aspects, but it is all the same, and behind it all there is the mighty instinctive stirring. Listen, and if you have the gift of imagination you will almost hear the beating of the great mother-heart. It is her progeny that is the crucible; it is the beautiful, glorious vitality of her sons and her daughters, melting in the fierce heat of this terrible system of ours, and is it wonderful that she should rise; is it any wonder that she should feel that it is necessary for her to regain her independence, that it is necessary for her to take her part in the moulding of the world?

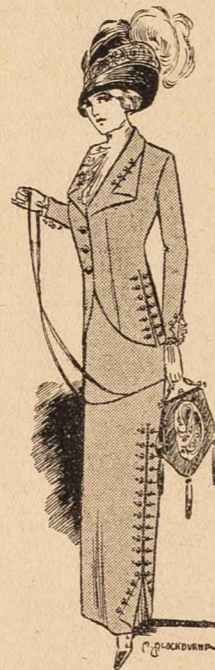
Mrs. Nevinson.

I think to-night we have no need of many words; some of us seem to talk so much that we get weary of the sound of our own voices, and to-day it has been a great relief to make our protest with our feet instead of our tongues. I have walked in eight processions in the last four years, and I don't think we ought to be asked continually to walk about the streets asking for votes. I don't think men were ever asked to do it. The agricultural labourers did it once, and got the vote; but we have done it eight times. Men have never done such things, and I don't think the women ought to be required to do more than the men, so I hope that the days of our warfare are accomplished.

Mrs. How Martyn has spoken to you of Mr. Asquith. Well, although he is a lawyer I think we may believe him, and we may believe Sir Edward Grey. Sir Edward Grey is not a lawyer, and he is by way of being a gentleman, and I feel sure that he will stick to it; and if in the name of his Cabinet he gave a pledge the Cabinet would be bound to respect that pledge, knowing him to be a gentleman, for if they wanted him not to be a gentleman he would probably say, "Very well, I'm off"; and they would have no Foreign Secretary, and I believe he is the only man in England who understands foreign politics, and they cannot afford to let him go. We are very lucky that we have Mr. Haldane, the Minister of War, and Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, as our best friends in the Cabinet. They are not either of them effeminate positions.

We have heard a great deal about the wrongs of women; every time they pass a fresh law they seem to make a fresh wrong. They put new wine into the old bottles, and the bottles burst and fresh absurdities spring up. They passed Old Age Pensions, but left woman under coverture, so that she cannot get relief simply because she is a married woman. You will hear later of the wickedness of the Insurance Bill, that the married women are practically excluded. But I wish to point out the condition of men under male mismanagement. Read the Census returns, and you will see that there are 1,178,317 more women than men. You see how accurate

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they are! Some of us know that is not quite accurate. I believe the greater part of this gathering never appeared on the Census papers—(cheers)—nor the greater number of those in the Albert Hall. A great many even of the members of the Church League were not included, and heaps of the women in the Portman Rooms were not included. I spoke for the Church League the other day, and the people on the platform had all kept out of the Census returns. I don't know how they made up the odd 317; it is very queer, but we know there are many more. And this disparity is due to male mismanagement which is wiping the males out of the country. It is very terrible, and is partly the infantile mortality. Boys are always more difficult to rear than girls, and something is wrong when the weaker sex represents the survival of the fittest. There are two great causes, first death under twenty, and then emigration. I believe they keep no statistics of emigration and immigration, but you only have to look at the lists of the great liners going to South Africa and Canada to see how men are leaving the country because they cannot get a living here; and again, this is due to male mismanagement, which produces sweated women's work to cut and undersell the men's work. The death-rate in Australia before women had the vote was 1,245 per year, or 130 per thousand, and when women got the vote in four years they brought it down to 616, or less than half. We all wish to save the men of the country, and it would not be for the credit of the British Empire that through their own injustice they drove out their own sex.

Miss Jack:—

Speaking on this platform as the representative for Scotland, and standing in front of this banner, which reads, "Dare to be Free!" I cannot help recalling some words of the poet, Wordsworth: "Two voices there are—one is of the mountain, one is of the sea. Each a mighty voice, and each, from age to age, has been the chosen music of 'Liberty.'"

I come from the mountain—that land which has sent throughout the ages that mountain cry of "Liberty."

I come with a message from the women of Scotland to our sisters in England. My message is, that whether the fight be long, or whether the fight be short, the women of Scotland join forces with the women of England and Ireland. Together we will go marching on; together we will fight until the fight be won. We will be free!

I could not help being impressed by the reception which we received in the streets to-day. It must have been a joy to those veterans who have fought so many years for the cause to see such an awakening.

Miss Eva Gore Booth:—

Mrs. Nevinson has said that this afternoon we were for once protesting with our legs instead of our tongues. I was surprised because I felt as if I had been making speeches all the afternoon. I was carrying a banner which asked why women who paid the same as men should receive only 7s. 6d. a week while men receive 10s., and it has called forth numberless remarks. One man said: "Why; because they don't eat as much." And that is quite true. If you have 7s. 6d. instead of 10s., you won't eat so much, and if you are poor you can't afford to lose 2s. 6d. a week just for being a woman.

The Insurance Bill is divided roughly into two parts. Those getting less than 15s. a week are the poor, and what justice is there that those women should pay the same contribution as men and receive less benefits?

No voluntary scheme in the country would offer such terms; it is only the Government dare do these things. The Government, as far as women are concerned, is entirely arbitrary.

We would not put our money into any concern that offered less per cent. because you are not a man, but the Government does not allow you any choice. Mr. Lloyd George won't let you go anywhere else. The only way you can get justice in these Government schemes is to get some hold on the Government.

Miss Dickenson:—

I would just like to say how very pleased those of us who have come from Lancashire have been to join in this demonstration to-day. With reference to what the last speaker has said, the Trade Unions of Lancashire will take up this question of the insurance, and the injustice that has been done to the poorer women—the wage-earners.

I could not help being impressed by the difference in the reception we received in the streets to-day. Coming along I did not hear one question about the family washing or darning the stockings, and it is certainly remarkable how much public opinion has altered on this subject of Women's Suffrage.

We, in Lancashire, are doing our best to get this Conciliation Bill passed, because we feel that thousands of our women will be enfranchised by it. Many people say that working women won't yet the vote under this Bill, but I am in touch with numbers of working women, hundreds of whom would get the vote under this Bill now before Parliament.

Miss Roper:—

I agree entirely with those speakers who have said it is impossible for the Members of the House of Commons to do justice to women. There are some people who don't want to do justice to women; but at the same time there are a great many Members



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of Parliament who do sincerely and honestly want to do what is just and fair to women, but while meaning well, they often propose and support measures which, if passed, would do women a grave injustice. When I read the debate on the second reading of the Women's Suffrage Bill I laughed. There was a certain gentleman who made a speech against it. He said: "What do women want with the vote? Measures are always being passed for their benefit. There was a Bill introduced yesterday (the Insurance Bill) under which many women will benefit! Is it a result of women having the vote? No; and it just shows how the House of Commons wants to do justice to women."

I was also very much struck with another point. You hear men say women should go and look after their homes. They speak as if the home was the one and only sphere for women. Well, if the way the married women are treated in the Insurance Bill is a sign of esteem in which married women are held in the country, I am sorry for it. There will be no help for the married woman when she is ill if the Bill passes as it stands.

BRANCH NOTES.

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

Anerley and Crystal Palace.—Hon. Sec.: Miss J. FENNINGS, 149, Croydon-road.

Last Monday we held our usual meeting at the Tram Terminus, and for an hour and a-half in the pouring rain Miss Ethel Fennings spoke to a fair-sized crowd with evidently a great thirst for information from the amount of questions asked. Eighteen copies of THE VOTE were sold, and a collection taken. Since the procession we have gained at least four new members. Coronation way was too good an opportunity to be lost for advertising our League. Accordingly, in the decorations outside the hon. secretary's house, intermingled with the Union Jacks, were W.F.L. flags and pennons, and our beautiful procession banner, all of which attracted much attention from the passers-by.

Herne Hill and Norwood.—Hon. Secretary, Miss B. SPENCER, 32, Geneva-road, Brixton, S.W.

Our branch was well represented in the procession on Saturday, June 17, and the branch banner was carried by Miss Lucy Jenks, assisted by Mrs. McLeod-Kingsnorth. On Sunday afternoon, June 18, a meeting was held in Brockwell Park, when the speakers were Mrs. Tanner and Miss Hillsworth. The next meeting in Brockwell Park will be held on July 2, when Miss Ethel Fennings and Miss Palmer will speak. We hope all members will endeavour to attend our sale and garden party (if wet, indoors), on June 28 and 29, at 170, Peckham-rye, 3 to 9 p.m.

Hayes and Southall.—MISS CUNNINGHAM, "Oakdene," Hayes. Preparations are being made for a grand theatrical and propaganda entertainment to take place on July 8, at Holy Trinity Hall, Southall, Miss Raleigh (of Uxbridge) having most generously promised to stage manage and give a performance of "How the Vote was Won," with her splendid company playing elsewhere. At Southall, a new suffrage farce, by Mrs. Marion Cunningham, entitled "Christmas Geese," will be produced by her, and as the finishing touch and great attraction, Mrs. Despard has kindly promised to speak. A big success is anticipated. M. CUNNINGHAM.

Croydon.—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue. Office: 3, The Arcade, High-street.

June 30, sewing meeting, at 3 p.m. We are expecting Mrs. How Martyn to pay us a visit on Friday afternoon, June 30, so we hope that many members and friends will be present to welcome her to our Croydon Centre. The profit on our recent Jumble Sale was £6 3s. 9d. Will members now begin to prepare for an early autumn sale?

Hackney.—MISS GUTTRIDGE, 17, Dunsmore-road, Stamford-hill.

In spite of the rain last Sunday, Mr. Reginald Pott spoke to a very interested crowd in Victoria-park. Copies of THE VOTE were sold. Speaker for July 2, Miss Guttridge. The shop at 4, Clarence-road, is in course of repair, and donations to cover cost of same will be very gladly received. Please reserve July 13 for the "Garden Meeting" at 23, Terrace-road. Mrs. Despard and others will speak. There will also be an *al fresco* concert, and various stalls, &c. Gifts for the latter should be sent in as early as convenient to Mrs. Catmur at above address. Articles in the League colours will be especially welcome.

Mid-London.

In Hyde Park, on the Sunday following our procession, Mrs. Despard spoke for us, and we had a splendid meeting. It was curious and interesting to watch people hurrying up from every quarter to hear her. A photographer, who had been taking snapshots at the camp close by, carried away with him several, also, of Mrs. Despard on our lorry, from different points of view. Mrs. Tanner (who took on the meeting when Mrs. Despard was obliged to leave) said it was a grand one from first to last. At the conclusion a gentleman put half-a-sovereign in Mrs. Tanner's hands, and "vanished like a flash." If he should read this, will he please accept our thanks?

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.—Hon. Organiser:

MISS MANNING, B.A., Harper-hill, Sale, Cheshire.

Members from this district will not lightly forget the great Procession. Fifty-five of us took part, forty-eight of these coming from the Manchester District. The Sale banner was the source of much amusement in the crowd: "Here are the remnants from Sale." "Hello, Miss, are you going for 11^d?" "being specimens of the witticisms which greeted us. But the Sale branch, having sent twenty-five members to the Procession was proof against all chaff. In the Kensington Town Hall our contingent made a solid phalanx from wall to wall, and the Manchester branches' banner, with its head of Minerva against a rising sun, was a conspicuous object on the platform. A never-to-be-forgotten day ended with a drive back to Euston, where supper awaited us, provided (as was the tea) by the kindness of Mrs. Manning. We cannot sufficiently thank Mrs. Harvey for her kindness in making all arrangements for the comfort and convenience of our party in London. Her forethought added very greatly to the pleasure of the day.

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as performed by MADAM MAY DEW is the only way by which superfluous hair can be permanently destroyed.

30 to 40 Hairs Removed in Half-an-hour, 7/6. No mark or scar.

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MARIE ROCHFORD Handmade Hats (very Light in Weight) Toques and Bonnets.

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SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow: Suffrage Centre, 302, SAUCHIEHALL-STREET.

Hon. Secretary: MISS MINA STEVEN.

Hon. Treasurer: MISS JANET L. BUNTEN.

Shop Manager: MISS McARTHUR.

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

Hon. Secretary: Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place; Hon. Treasurer: Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street; Hon. Shop Secretary: Mrs. THOMSON, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

On Wednesday evening, June 14, a very well-attended "At Home" was held in the Suffrage Shop. Miss Sara Munro presided. A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded Miss Dalziel for her services in painting the beautiful new "coat of arms" banner which we carried in London, and to Miss Jacob, B.Sc., for mounting it. On the motion of Miss Wood, it was agreed to send a donation of £10 to London. On the 24th continuous heavy rain made an open-air function impossible, but Mrs. Gillespie and Miss Colville most generously arranged that the "garden party" be transferred indoors, and a most enjoyable afternoon was spent. Councillor Bruce Lindsay gave a short address, after which Mrs. Kennedy Fraser and Miss Margaret Kennedy delighted the audience with songs and stories. Dances were contributed by Miss Clair Oliver and Master Jack McLeod. The "living and moving" picture, for which Mrs. Bankhead had painted a most picturesque setting in the garden, was arranged with a good deal of ingenuity in the drawing-room. The central figure (Miss Peebles) sang "Maiden of Morven." The piper (Mr. A. McLachlan) played rael music, and figures from the picture came forward and danced the "eightsome reel." This somewhat novel entertainment was much appreciated. We finished with some of the old country dances, arranged by Miss Duncan and Miss Nannie Brown. To all those mentioned and to others who took part in the entertainment, to Miss Wood, who was in charge of the tea, and above all to the hostesses, our very sincere thanks are due. The next "At Home" will be held in the Shop on July 12, at 7.30 p.m. HELEN McLACHLAN, Assistant Secretary.

Dundee.—Hon. Secretary: L. CLUNAS, 1, Blackness-crescent.

Our request to send representatives to the Coronation Procession was refused by the Town Council. Miss Husband, whose house is on the procession route, suggested that we should decorate it in the colours, and fill the windows and balcony with Suffragettes. Our decorations, particularly the new banner, attracted much admiration. Our action in approaching the Council has borne fruit; one paper remarked that women would have to get larger representation in official

processions in the future. Members are asked during the holidays to remember our Cake, Candy and Apron Sale, and make it the event of the autumn.

SCOTTISH COUNCIL.

During the past fortnight meetings have been held in Kinross and Fifeshire. Wet weather unfortunately, during the last few days, has been very detrimental to us in the shape of collections.

Our energies were also engaged towards making the Scottish contingent of the W.F.L. a success. From Aberdeen, Perth, Dundee, Dunfermline, Alloa, as well as Edinburgh and Glasgow, we journeyed, wearing our tartan, heather and thistle. For the immediate future our campaign will be on the west coast for July, and I would again urge all who can give time, be it long or short, to communicate at once with me.

The success of such a series of meetings depends on the hearty co-operation of a number of workers, as well as the speakers, especially from the financial point of view.

	£	s.	d.
Donations previously acknowledged	14	1	7½
Edinburgh Branch	3	0	0
Dundee Branch	2	0	0
Total	£19	1	7½

ANNA MUNRO.

OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

Church League for Women's Suffrage.—President: THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN. Hon. Sec.: The Rev. C. HINSCLIFF. Hon. Treasurer: Miss L. COWELL. Organiser: Mrs. G. M. HINSCLIFF. Offices: 1, S. Mark's-crescent, Regent's Park, London, N.W.

A branch is about to be started in Chelsea. Will intending members kindly send their names and addresses to the Rev. C. Hinscliff? A branch is about to be started in Paddington. Will intending members kindly send their names and addresses to Mrs. Shewell Cooper, 4, Warwick-crescent, W.? There will be a meeting of the Hendon Branch on Thursday, June 29, at 4 p.m., at Bella Vista, Sunnyfields-road, by kind permission of Mrs. Spencer. Subscriptions for the work at Church Congress this autumn are much needed. Collecting cards should be filled up and returned to the organiser by the end of June. Will the two ladies who gave 5s. to Miss Maude Royden at

(Continued on page 132.)

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

LONDON.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Thurs., June 29.—Sale and garden party at 170, Peckham Rye, to be opened by Miss F. A. Underwood, 3 to 9 p.m. Admission free.

Sun., July 2.—Hyde Park, 12 noon. *Speaker:* Miss Benett. *Chair:* Miss Busby. Brockwell Park, 3 p.m. *Speakers:* Miss E. Fennings and Miss Palmer.

Mon., July 3.—Tram Terminus, Crystal Palace. *Miss Turner and Mr. Kennedy.*

Wed., July 5.—Miss Nina Boyle, "Gardenia" meeting, 8 p.m. "The International Congress."

Sun., July 9.—Hyde Park, noon.
Tues., July 11.—1, Robert-street, 8 p.m. Special Meeting of Mid-London Branch members.

Wed., July 12.—Mrs. Despard, "Gardenia" meeting, 8 p.m. Clinics and Open-Air Schools.

Sun., July 16.—Brockwell Park, 3 p.m. *Speaker:* Mrs. Tanner.

Wed., July 19.—Mrs. How Martyn, "Gardenia" meeting, 8 p.m. "The Economic Status of Married Women."

Wed., July 26.—Mrs. Drysdale, "Gardenia" meeting, 8 p.m. "Emancipation and Motherhood."

SCOTLAND.

Mon., July 3.—Rothesay, 12 noon, 3 and 7 p.m.

Tues., July 4.—Rothesay, 12 noon, 3 and 7 p.m.

Wed., July 5.—Dunoon, 3 and 7 p.m.

Thurs., July 6.—Largs, 12 noon, 3 and 7 p.m.

Fri., July 7.—Rothesay, 12 noon, 3 and 7 p.m.

Sat., July 8.—Rothesay, 12 noon, 3 and 7 p.m.

EDINBURGH.

Wed., July 12.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road, "At Home," 7.30 p.m.

OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

(Continued from page 131.)

an "A.B.C." shop on June 17, kindly send her their names and addresses, as she had unfortunately mislaid them?

The Rev. A. E. N. Simms, M.A., B.D., Vicar of Grayshott, Surrey, will preach to members and friends of the league at St. George's, Bloomsbury (Hart-street, W.C.), on Wednesday, July 5, at 6.30 p.m.

Actresses' Franchise League.

The next "At Home" is fixed for Friday, July 7, at 3 p.m., in the Grand Hall of the Criterion Restaurant, Piccadilly-circus. The speakers on this occasion are: Lady Betty Balfour, vice-president of the Conservative and Unionist Franchise Association; Mrs. Israel Zangwill, the well-known authoress; Mr. S. Parnell Kerr, barrister-at-law, and Mr. Walter Roch, M.P., Liberal member for Pembroke, so the subject will be presented from several most interesting points of view. Chair, Miss Compton; hostess, Miss Alice Crawford. Patrons and members are asked to bring their unconverted friends to this meeting, which will be the last one held this season. Admission free. Doors open at 2.30 p.m.

Women's Tax Resistance League.

On Monday, June 19, silver was sold in Lisson-grove, the property of Mrs. Lilian Hicks, who has been a taxpayer for many years, and who has now become a resister. Owing to the courtesy of Mr. Hawkings, the auctioneer by whom the goods were sold, a special speech was allowed in the auction room, and Mrs. Despard very kindly came to do this for us. She was listened to with grave attention, and Mrs. Hicks was well supported by members of the league and suffrage friends. A procession then formed up, with banners, and marched to Hyde Park, where a meeting was held.

On Tuesday, June 20, ten members of the league went down to Teddington to support Mrs. Rawles, of Hampton Wick, who had a pearl pendant sold for non-payment of King's Taxes.

On Wednesday night, June 21, silver spoons were sold, the property of Dr. Katherine Heanley, of East Ham, at Cheke's Auction Rooms. At the conclusion of the sale, and after much cheering in the auction rooms, a procession with banners crossed to the Broadway, Romford-road, and held an interesting meeting from a waggon.

Free Church League for Woman Suffrage.—*President:* Dr. CLIFFORD. *Treasurer:* Mrs. HOLMAN, 55, Talbot-road, Highgate, N.

Two new departures have been made this month. First, open-air speaking, organised by the East Ham Branch, with Mrs. Baldock as speaker; secondly, speaking at Brotherhoods, Mrs. R. T. Sambrook addressed the Lavender Hill Branch on Sunday afternoon with great effect. It is to be regretted that through ill-health the Rev. E. Clark (organising secretary) has been compelled to resign. A members' meeting will be called early in the autumn to elect a successor. Meanwhile, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmeley Park, Highgate, are kindly acting as such.

THE MILITANT MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

Miss Caroline Lexow, the new executive secretary of the American Militant Suffrage Society, has recently been interviewed in New York on the subject of the present active campaign in America.

"We have been advised many times," said Miss Lexow, "to concentrate on the coming Constitutional Convention. Some of the legislators would like to persuade us that this is the wise thing to do. But there is no time like now for any question. Suffragists must press on without a minute to lose till they arrive. We want action as quickly as we can get it, and we are learning how to get it very rapidly.

"Every cause needs its picture. We must have demonstrations that impress the eye. Hence we expect great things of our parades when the woman of yesterday will be contrasted with the woman of to-day; when the industries of the home will be the foil for the trades worker of the present; when the doll of the eighteenth century will be shown side by side with her sisters in the professions.

"Times have changed; why not manners? Woman has assumed a different place in the affairs of the world and must complete her freedom. After the picture which treats of the need of the ballot broadly it is imperative that every woman understands that she alone can compile her own Suffrage catechism. Each must be trained to look into her own life and see what the ballot can bring her. It is a matter of individual interest. As soon as women recognise just how their advancement in any line will be hastened by the ballot they will have reached the last lap of the race.

"One of the great considerations in our campaigning is the making of news. The advertisement of the cause—I mean legitimate advertisement, not sensationalising for sensation's sake—is half the battle. It brings more and more people into touch with us and daily swells our ranks."

Miss Lexow began her active work for Suffrage as the organiser and president of the New York Collegiate Equal Suffrage League. She was later the secretary of the National Collegiate League. During the past season she has acted as State organiser for Mrs. Mackay's Equal Franchise League, and, with Mrs. Harriot Stanton Blatch, was responsible for the programme of Suffrage Week in Albany, when the annual hearing came off.

'SAME AS LAST GOALS' Thus writes an Editor to W. Clarke and Son.

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