

THE VOTE
Jan. 15, 1915.
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THE WAR & WOMEN. C. S. BREMNER.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. NO. 273.

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FRIDAY, JAN. 15, 1915.

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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BRANCH NOTES.

Trafalgar Square PROTEST

Against ILLEGAL RESTRICTIONS & PENALTIES.

Sunday, January 24, 1915, at 3 p.m.

THE INFAMOUS ORDER issued at Cardiff, whereby, by military decree, women who had committed no offence *against the Law*, could be arrested for disobeying an instruction to remain in their houses between the hours of 7 p.m. and 8 a.m. has been cancelled *as being entirely illegal*.

WE BELIEVE that the Army Council circular, decreeing in the same high-handed way, that allowances and payments granted by Parliament to the people may be withdrawn if the conduct of the recipients be not what the Army Council deems "worthy," will be found to be equally illegal.

WE BELIEVE that the order to refuse to serve women in hotels and public-houses during hours of business is also utterly illegal.

THE AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE for the first order are local commanding officers; for the second, the Army Council; for the third, the police and the licensing authorities.

We hope all men and women concerned for the honour of their country will assemble in TRAFALGAR SQUARE on Sunday, January 24th, to express their indignation at these wanton attacks on the liberty and integrity of women.

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HEADQUARTER NOTES.

London Activities.

The principal speaker at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, Jermyn-street, Piccadilly, W., next Wednesday afternoon will be the Rev. W. Piggott, who helped us so splendidly during the Teachers' Conference at Lowestoff last year. Mr. Piggott has chosen as the subject of his address "Women and Problems of the War," and we hope that friends will rally to our support that afternoon. The chair will be taken at 3.30. The following Wednesday we shall have the pleasure of listening to the Rev. C. Baumgarten on "Ideals of Social Government."

Trafalgar Square Protest Meeting.

All our readers are urged to attend this protest meeting in Trafalgar Square, Sunday afternoon, January 24.

Provincial Activities.

Mrs. Despard will be speaking at a meeting arranged by our Bournemouth Branch this (Friday) evening at Freedom Hall, Loughtonhurst, West Cliff Gardens, at 8 o'clock, the chair being taken by Mrs. Hume. Our President will speak at a social gathering arranged by our Southampton Branch the following afternoon.

Miss Nina Boyle will speak at a meeting arranged by our Waterloo Branch at Liverpool, Tuesday, January 26; at Manchester, Wednesday, January 27; and at Chester, Thursday, January 28.

North Eastern District.

Miss Anna Munro and Miss Alix M. Clark will speak at meetings arranged by our Middlesbrough Branch during the week beginning January 14, particulars of which will be found in our list of Forthcoming Events.

Scottish Activities.

Our Glasgow Branch has arranged a protest meeting at Bridgewater Cross, January 23, the speakers being the Misses Shennan and Semple, and probably one or two members of the Northern Men's Federation. The chair will be taken at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday, January 30. Miss Boyle will speak at the Philosophical Rooms, 207, Bath-street, at 8 o'clock, her subject being "Impertinences." F. A. UNDERWOOD.

MEN WHO GOVERN US.

THE VOTE has on previous occasions called attention to the extraordinary laxitude of public opinion in regard to the slack sense of honour exhibited by the men who govern us. One of the examples set forth at some length concerned Lord Reading, the Lord Chief Justice, who, when Attorney-General, allowed himself to be briefed by the Government to inquire into the conduct of the Government on behalf of the public in the case of the *Titanic* disaster; who, during the course of the inquiry, accepted Cabinet rank as a colleague of the men whose conduct of public affairs he was inquiring into. A new case has arisen, which appears almost more flagrant.

Sir George Askwith, the employee of the Board of Trade, whose function it is to intervene in cases

of dispute between employer and employed, is stated, in a leading daily paper, to be one of the directors of a commercial and industrial organisation which obtains contracts from the Government. This may or may not be generally known; but we feel sure public attention would not have been called to it had not an unfortunate imbroglia concerning some "alien enemies" caused the matter to assume some importance. The spectacle of a prominent Board of Trade official acting as director of a concern which gets Government contracts is pretty startling; we did not know that public opinion had sunk to the level which makes it possible; but there is more to it than even that.

The Lanston Monotype Corporation (near Redhill) is apparently the company in question; its contracts at present are with the War Office; the heads of two departments are Germans, who were interned under a War Office instruction, and then released also under a War Office instruction, because the War Office contracts could not be got through without them. The local police, the Mayor and the Council were extremely indignant and refused to take the responsibility of releasing men who had been declared by the War Office itself to be dangerous to public safety. These responsible officials, however, were ignored, and the Germans were set free by an order from the War Office, of which the local police were notified by a communication from the Home Office.

So the War Office arrests men because they are dangerous aliens and releases them against the wishes of the police because it cannot get on without them. This is bad enough; but there is worse. The action of the War Office is illegal, if one may accept the dictum of one of His Majesty's judges. In a case tried by Mr. Justice Wheeler, at Hitchin, it was stated that a certain alien had been released from the restrictions of the Aliens' Registration Act by the advice of the Home Office. Mr. Justice Wheeler is reported to have said, with a spirit that reminds one of his famous prototype Gascoigne, "It would be a strange day in the history of this country when a Treasury Minister or a Home Office official could override the laws and Courts of this country. What has the Home Secretary to do with me? I have to administer the law."

We could have wished this tardy sense of decency had been more in evidence when illegal methods were used against women; but it is satisfactory to know that it is alive, however faint its heart-beats.

The Chief Constable and the Mayor of Redhill, or Salfords, have their duty plain before them. They can re-arrest the Germans in the certainty that they have the law behind them, and that the War Office has "overridden the laws and Courts of this country." But we do not imagine they will have the courage. Just as the police and the local authorities have allowed Colonel Penton, at Plymouth, and the licensing authorities elsewhere, to penalise, illegally, women in places of public entertainment, and just as Colonel East was allowed to arrest and imprison women under an illegal order in Cardiff without any effort to uphold the law, so these officials will allow the War Office to do it. As usual, those whose function it is to make the law are found equally ready to break the law; and those whose duty it is to maintain its dignity are most frequently those who are ready to slight and degrade it. C. NINA BOYLE.

JUSTICE AT LAST! The Garw (South Wales) Medical Workmen's Aid Society is advertising for a woman doctor—at exactly the same salary as three men receive: £350, all found, no travelling. Pontycymmer is to be congratulated on the foresight and determination of the colliers' representatives.

THE WAR AND WOMEN.

Let us Play.

It was Nietzsche who observed that "man is more childish than woman. In the true man there is a child hidden; it wanteth to play." It is true, and British and Germans fighting in the trenches gave a proof of Nietzsche's remark. An official truce was denied, but the men themselves voluntarily ceased hostilities for five hours, fraternised and exchanged knives, tobacco boxes, buttons, cigarettes. The French and Belgians joined in. German officers photographed the motley groups as they strolled about and tried to understand each other's language. All grasped the big Saxon's meaning when he shouted, "Ve wants to know if you vas as fed up mit dis var as ve vas," and another German shed tears and said it was not war but murder, and that he wanted to go home to his wife and child. We do not intend to give vent to a diatribe against war, only to remind the gentle reader that "the great heart of democracy," so frequently the subject of caustic irony, can at times show emotion very strongly tinged with reason. It is certain that before very long men will ask what on earth caused them to take up arms against women and resist a most just, rational and thrice necessary claim to citizenship.

A Hundred a Month.

Not pounds nor even shillings for poor wives and mothers whose husbands and sons are at the front, though the sum has reached a more reasonable figure when there are several young children. A suburban weekly informs us that in December last a hundred aliens received certificates of naturalisation or have been re-admitted to British nationality, and are registered at the Home Office as British citizens. Their names are published in the *London Gazette* of last week. Women will do well to ponder this information, to question its inner meaning. Let us admit, though, of course, we cannot be certain, that they are all, all honourable men. Yet they add to the vast sum total of the sex bias of this country, of the emphasis doubly lined on the male side, of sex privilege, of slur on the true position of women in civilisation. If every one of the hundred were a Suffragist, bent on calling the Cabinet to heel, on demanding women's enfranchisement in season and out, the remark would still remain well within the bounds of truth. Each paid £3 as a naturalisation fee, plus 2s. 6d. or even 3s.—there has been a great demand for such papers, and they have risen to it—for the necessary forms. Yet for a great sum Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Fawcett, Lady Frances Balfour or Mrs. Pankhurst cannot obtain this freedom! They were *not* free-born. Nothing they can do, no moral excellence to which they can attain, can ever wipe off the bar sinister of their womanhood, not saintship itself, nor yet the payment of £3 2s. 6d. Noble, noble rulers!

Heroes All.

Mr. Robert Blatchford is deeply moved at the heroism of the men on the *Formidable*. Captain Loxley, after the fatal impact, signalled to other ships "Keep off." Five hundred men were asleep below when summoned to their posts. They saluted their officers as they passed, they handed garments to young middies who had had no time to dress. They went down like heroes. Never have nobler men served under Blake, Duncan or Nelson. And we pay widows of these men 7s. 6d. weekly, says Mr. Blatchford. Women know well that the spirit of these men, their devotion to duty, and their love of country, their faithfulness to death, come every whit as much from their mothers (to put it very mildly) as from their fathers. And the inculcation of that spirit, its place in a right education is due

as much to women as to men. They show it in their field of action, in the home, the school, the country.

Is Britain a Democracy?

asks Mr. Blatchford, turning over that sorry 7s. 6d. with which a grateful nation rewards the mothers and widows of these heroes. He is astonished that British people do not get angry at this scurvy treatment, do not insist on highly paid members of the Cabinet doing their duty. "We are proud of our Navy," he goes on. "Seven and sixpence. Can any fellow-countryman tell me what is the matter with us?" Very likely not, but many of his countrywomen can. This country is purblind with its solely male point of view, with its failure in legislation and social custom to take note of the profound changes that have occurred within the last hundred years, that have driven women out of the home to earn their own bread and often their children's, changes that have left them more and more at the mercy of the legislature. During that period women have been specifically deprived of the latent rights they possessed, which they would undoubtedly have exercised but for formal disfranchisement. The home is woman's sphere, but male legislation dealt the home a terrible blow in the Matrimonial Causes Act of 1858. The folly of privileging one sex at the expense of the other, the unrepresented one, is the malady of England. It affects our physique; the Kaiser has taken note of this, if our legislators have turned their exceedingly blind eye towards it. It is the true cause of our slums, of physical degeneracy, and it is *one* cause of this war, of the German swelled head. If Mr. Blatchford has not enough intuition to agree with this rapid diagnosis, it can be elaborated more fully.

The Payment of Women.

Alas, that in this mercenary age so very much hangs on sufficient pay for service rendered! The War Office contractors are thoroughly alive to the need for sufficient payment; they see that they get quite enough to keep body and soul together, poor dear fellows. So alive are they, that certain newspapers are making grave complaints about the prices paid for wooden huts, corrugated zinc, the quality of the khaki supplied, etc. A committee of business men are to aid the Government with their advice so that the taxpayers shall not be swindled. We suggest that they also take within their purview the prices paid to women workers who are being sweated by contractors. Prices for Government work include soldiers' flannel belts at 8d. per dozen, binding soldiers' canvas kit-bags 1s. 2d. a dozen, making shirts 3s. 6d. per dozen, and so on. Such prices are a disgrace to the Government, to the Army and to civilisation. They must be studied in connection with the increased prices for food and fuel.

It is our firm belief that if the four ladies we have named had been elected to Parliament, such prices would have died out within a year of their election. They are a tribute to the stupidity of male government, the knell of its continuance, for they spell weakness, degeneracy, imbecility. We invite Mr. Blatchford's opinion on the subject. We assure him that we concur in disapproval of that paltry 7s. 6d., although we dislike it less than the disparagement, the insult to all womanhood that is inherent in woman's perpetual disfranchisement. We have expressed pleasure at seeing man play; we now beseech him not to play the fool when civilisation is at stake. We demand of the Government the fulfilment of its pledges, the immediate enfranchisement of women. Offences must needs come, even then; but they will not be so blatant, smirched by such egregious and manifest injustice as now. C. S. BREMER.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, January 15th, 1915.

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

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

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

UNDER THE HEEL OF THE LAW.

Amongst the many misconceptions that have led humanity astray there are none more perverse, none, it seems to us, more mischievous than those which survived that abstraction which we call the law. Human or divine law, the general conception of it is the same. It is something which binds, which cripples, which tramples underfoot those who are not strong enough to resist it.

There can be no doubt that thousands upon thousands share this view. It is perverse, as we have said, and mischievous; but we believe there is reason for it; and as there seems danger, at the present moment, of reversion to the old anomalies and injustices that made the law abhorred, it may be as well to define, if we can, the meaning of law, and to see in what its use and its dignity consist.

Looking back upon our social history we shall find that as the nation has consolidated, as manners have become milder and life has been more secure, the law has, to a certain degree, changed its character. Time was when the labouring man and woman had no rights before the law, when the married woman was literally the property of her husband, and when the authorities could force men into military or naval service. That time has passed, never, we hope, to return. Let us, however, remember in considering what the law really means that this change is rather a harking back to old ideals than the entering in of something new. For, as a fact, law and liberty go hand in hand. The best and purest laws, those most consistent with a high morality and most regardful of the interests of the whole of the human family, tend not to curtail liberty but to give it wider scope. In the really free State the laws, chosen by the whole of the people and administered by those whom they elect to represent them, will allow all individuals to pursue their own course, so long as they do not interfere with the liberty of others. It is indeed through the restrictions which the citizens of a free country impose upon themselves that the free action of all is rendered possible.

That is the ideal. Needless to say, we have not yet achieved it. But are we moving in that direction? The question is of intense moment to us all. To our nation, we believe, it means literally life or death. For no free, fully alive, man or woman would care to live and bring up children in a land of slaves; and that assuredly will be the fate of this country if those who cherish the ancient ideals of law and liberty do not act without delay.

There are certain indications pointing this way. Splendidly has the voluntary system for Army and Navy served us hitherto; but some are not satisfied, and the idea of conscription is gaining ground. We maintain that if the wives and mothers of our soldiers were given the protection, and not the menace, of the law there would be no word of

voluntary enlistment being insufficient for the needs of the country.

According to the law of the land, martial law cannot be proclaimed except in case of invasion or riot. Yet the Defence of the Realms Act takes so wide a scope that an amendment to protect the rights of civilians is demanded. It is to provide that, save in cases of spying or interfering with fortifications, they shall have right of appeal from the military to the civil Courts.

But upon the women of the country who have no voting power, the last of these new, fear-inspired laws are falling the most heavily; indeed, it is quite certain that if women submit tamely now to the restrictions and regulations that the civil and military authorities seek to impose upon them they will sink again to the level from which the modern Movement towards liberty has lifted them, and generations may pass before they recover the ground they will have lost.

It is on this account that we urge all our members and friends—men as well as women—to speak now with one voice. We are not indeed satisfied with the law as it is. The most cursory study will prove that the marriage laws, the divorce laws, those which regulate parenthood and inheritance, made and administered by man, degrade woman and swamp her individuality. By this parody of law she is robbed and insulted. That which should, were we rightly placed, be an arm to protect her is the iron heel that crushes her down. It is our deep conviction of the injury which this inflicts, not on women alone but on the whole race, that has given energy, fire and inspiration to the Woman's Movement. We invoke that energy now, and we are sure we shall not call in vain.

On Sunday, January 24, we of the Women's Freedom League, the United Suffragists, the East London Federation and the Northern Men's Federation are going to Trafalgar Square to protest against some of these new regulations; and if men and women workers can be brought to realise what the present crisis means we shall have such a demonstration as has never been seen there before.

Let it be clearly understood we of the Suffrage Movement are with our country, with France, with heroic Belgium, in this struggle. War, in itself, is hateful to us. We believe that when international, as well as national law is imposed by the peoples upon themselves, wars will cease; but meanwhile the great calamity is upon us, and it is our bounden duty and service to render whatever help may be possible, and to bend all our energies as a nation towards bringing the war to an end. Therefore, we do not desire to hamper in any way either the civil or the military authorities. Unusual restrictions and regulations may be necessary; what we demand is equality of treatment for men and women. If, as has been done in France and Russia, the sale of certain intoxicants were forbidden everywhere, we should not complain; but when women, who are certainly, as has been proved over and over again, the most orderly and law-abiding part of the population, are forbidden by law to enter public-houses at certain times, when soldiers's wives are subjected to an insulting and dangerous supervision, when women in military centres are placed under martial law, the time has come for all to whom the honour of womanhood is dear to protest by every means in their power.

Four resolutions, the text of which we shall give later, will be placed before the Trafalgar Square meeting; and one of the speakers will be the woman, who, leading her neighbours at Preston, forced those who had accused the soldiers' wives in that town of drinking and disorderly conduct, to eat their own words. These slanderous and baseless assertions, made all over the country, the first resolution will indignantly repudiate. The second

and third will demand that the restrictive orders and regulations enforced against women only, the enactments, constituting actually a revival of the Contagious Diseases Acts, which the Prime Minister promised to keep both in letter and spirit, now in force in military centres, and the altogether unnecessary and insulting police supervision of the wives of the brave men who are fighting for us, be withdrawn immediately. That is what we demand, and nothing less will be accepted.

The final resolution demands "an emergency measure giving votes to women without further delay."

For this, indeed, is the crux of the whole matter. The citizenship of women must be recognised. Never until then will the nations of Europe be able to build up a democratic union, strong and enlightened enough to be able to make the law of every land a law of liberty.

C. DESPARD.

OUR BELGIAN PARTY.

"I am an ardent Feminist, and I am proud to stand on this platform under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League."

In these words, M. Vanderwelde, the well-known Deputy and now a Belgian Minister of State, not only brought home to all his compatriots the fact that their hosts at the Caxton Hall on January 7 were Suffragists, but emphasised his deep sympathy with the Cause. That we stood for Woman Suffrage was evident to all who thronged the Hall. Our President laid stress on it in a fine speech of welcome, excellently delivered in French with a warm-heartedness and sincerity that went home to the sorrowing hearts of the grown-ups in the large company. Miss Nina Boyle, in a final speech, fluently given in French and full *verve*, waved the Suffrage flag with such good effect that her words evoked cheer after cheer, and no one could fail to understand that the members of the League were patriots because they were suffragists, and suffragists because they were patriots.

That sad hearts were able, to a certain extent, to forget their sorrow and that little children laughed with delight in the enjoyment of the pleasures provided was, as our President declared, the only gratification desired by all who had helped to prepare the fête. From the time that Mrs. Despard received the children, their friends and our supporters early in the afternoon to the final "Good Nights" at 10.30 p.m., there was not a dull moment and our guests showed in every possible way their keen appreciation of the hospitality offered.

After tea had been served in the Lounge and other rooms, the company gathered in the large Hall where the huge Christmas Tree, laden with presents, was an object of the keenest interest to young and old. But the children were admirably patient till their turn came after the speeches by Mrs. Despard, M. Vanderwelde and the Mayor of Westminster. "Belgium has saved others; herself she could not save," said our President, "and what is being done for the Belgian people everywhere is a debt of honour." She expressed the hope that the time of misery might soon pass and that the sorely stricken people find themselves re-established and independent in their own country. The Allies were determined that Belgium's sacrifice should not be in vain. Peace would only be real when militarism was crushed.

M. Vanderwelde made a touching response. He expressed the thanks of the guests and declared that the traditional friendship between Great Britain and Belgium would be strengthened by the experiences of this time of sorrow. It would not be a lost lesson. Belgians were struck with the important rôle played by British women; but as an ardent Feminist he wanted to see them enfranchised. His compatriots would never forget, he said, the cordiality, the friendship, and the generosity with which they had been welcomed here.

The Mayor of Westminster, who was accompanied by the Mayoress, expressed his pleasure in being associated with the wonderful piece of work done by the Women's Freedom League in carrying out the fête so successfully. Looking at the bright faces before him, it was almost impossible, he remarked, to realise that all had passed through times of heart-breaking sorrow. Britain, however, was determined to see Belgium righted, and he had that day enrolled a Volunteer Corps of men over military age who were ready, if necessary to come to the rescue. The Mayor made a happy reference to the courage and resource of M. Max, and said that he hoped to see him back in his position of authority over the city of Brussels.

In marshalling the children in what seemed a never-ending queue, the Boy Scouts did their part in a most efficient and kindly manner, despite the

IMPORTANT.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.

In this time of stress we are determined to keep our Suffrage Flag flying and our Flagstaff is—

"THE VOTE."

Week by week our organ makes known to the public our work for the great Cause for which we stand; the continued and pressing need for the enfranchisement of women. It tells also of the work of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps, its varied and practical activities on behalf of the national need at the moment.

We, in company with all Press organs, especially propaganda papers, are suffering severely through the war. Our advertisement revenue is seriously diminished, as in this way big firms are effecting economies, and in the general financial stress the street sales of our paper have been hard hit.

We must face the situation and realise that the Flagstaff is necessary if the Flag is to be held aloft. Every member and sympathiser has a share in this responsibility.

We must have without delay a sum of £500

To ensure it we make the following definite proposals which we hope all will adopt as New Year's resolutions—to last till our goal is won, and women are enfranchised:—

1. *That every member and friend will send a donation, large or small, to the fund, or promises of regular weekly subscriptions. Those who cannot run to pounds sterling might manage shillings, or even pennies, per week.*
2. *That every member and friend will place their orders for grocery, printing, etc., with our Merchandise Department. The profits go to the support of THE VOTE. The prices charged are the same as in the shops, and carriage is paid to any part of the country on orders of 5s. and upwards. Price lists may be obtained on application.*
3. *That every member and friend will buy at least two copies of THE VOTE each week; one to keep and one or more to give away.*

If we all keep these resolutions we shall be assured of a steady income, and be relieved from anxiety with regard to our paper. A determined effort must be made if THE VOTE is to continue. Every member must understand the position. In making this clear statement I rely on the co-operation of all who know the national importance of the Cause we have at heart. Cheques and postal orders may be made payable to me at 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C., and a list of contributions will appear each week in THE VOTE.

C. DESPARD, Editor.

Support our Advertisers: They Support us.

ONE
PENNY

THE VOTE

CWEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

apples, jam, currants, sugar, raisins, etc. Miss Gladys Barrs very kindly collected 160 lbs. in Welshpool; contributions were also sent from Sarn Vicarage, Llanfyllin, Llan-saintfraid, Castle Rectory, Pennant Hall, Montgomery, Churchstoke. Donations towards paying the carriage of the goods were kindly given by the Rev. Evan Jones 2/6; Mr. Turner 2/6; Dr. Shearer 2/6; Miss Alix M. Clark 2/6; Mr. Spence 2/-; Mr. Breeze 1/-; Miss Davies 1/-; Miss Jones 1/-; contributions under 1/- amounted to 9/-. A contribution of apples was sent to the Croydon Branch, and a parcel of children's clothing to the Middlesbrough Branch.

YOUNG MIDDLESBROUGH AGAIN!

Norah Mahony sends us the following interesting and welcome news:—"We held our second children's party in aid of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps funds on January 6 in the Suffrage Centre. We did not make so much money as last time, as we only charged 3d. each, but we all enjoyed it very much. The children were very glad to welcome a family of Belgian refugees, who were very lively and enjoyed the party immensely. Before going home we sang the four national anthems, and then "Auld Lang Syne," and gave three hearty cheers for the Belgians and three more cheers for Monsieur Lefèvre, the Belgian pianist, who played for our games and dances. We thank Miss Hawkins for so kindly looking after the refreshments. We hope all the children will come to our next party on January 26, and will help us to make money for our bazaar on March 27."

THE WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

Having temporarily suspended activities, the committee of the League announces that the list of subscribers and balance sheet for 1914 may be inspected at the office of the auditor of the League, Mrs. Ayres Purdie, Hampden House, Kingsway. Mrs. Purdie will be pleased to give professional advice to members requiring assistance.

CAFE CHANTANT.

Our Belgian Party was such a success that we have decided to have a Café Chantant, Wednesday and Thursday, March 10 and 11. We shall have stalls, musical and entertainments, sideshows and refreshments; in fact, the "Fun of the Fair" will be in full progress from 3.30 till 10.30 on each of these days. The National Executive Committee has the confident hope of raising £500 by means of this Café Chantant, which sum it will devote to the many and varied activities of the Women's Freedom League. If all our readers will do their part we will do ours, and the combined result will be the greatest financial success which our League has yet scored. Will readers co-operate with us *at once* by setting themselves and their friends to work to provide goods for our stalls? We will make further appeals later on, but not a day should be lost in the effort to get our stalls well furnished.

ITEMS OF INTEREST.

THE WOMEN'S HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN, 688, Harrow-road, is to benefit by the endowment of a cot or the establishment of an X-ray apparatus in memory of Miss Florence Canning, whose recent death at Brighton undoubtedly resulted from brutal treatment received on Black Friday. Dr. Flora Murray, who attended Miss Canning, and Dr. L. Garrett Anderson founded the hospital which, as our readers are aware, is entirely staffed by women.

THE SCOTTISH WOMEN'S SUFFRAGIST RED CROSS UNIT of four doctors and twenty-five nurses has arrived in Servia.

THE EAST END FEDERATION OF SUFFRAGETTES now works "to secure the vote for every woman over 21."

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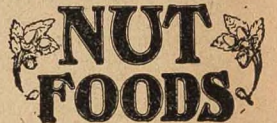
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