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THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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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.

AT BUDAPEST.

Women's International
Suffrage Alliance.

1913 CONGRESS.



COUNTESS ISKA TELEKI,
President of the Executive Committee,
Budapest Congress, 1913.



Mrs. CHAPMAN CATT,
President of the Women's International
Suffrage Alliance.



Mrs. DESPARD,
President of the Women's Freedom
League.



Miss C. NINA BOYLE,
Head of the Political and Militant Department
Women's Freedom League, and Delegate to
the Congress for South Africa.



Miss EUNICE MURRAY,
Scottish Council, Women's Freedom League.



OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Greetings to our Sisters.

With joy we greet our Suffragist sisters of all nations at Budapest, and wish them great success in their deliberations. We thank the Countess Iska Teleki for her courteous kindness in writing—in English—an excellent article for this issue of THE VOTE, which also includes a statement of the Freedom League's position—in English, French and German—and contains information on various subjects which, we hope, will be of interest. May we all achieve our citizenship and help the Women's Movement in all countries by hearty co-operation!

Fish? or Flesh!

We congratulate the Unionist Press, hitherto so uncertain, coy, and hard to please on the subject of militancy, on their final conversion to the spirit of the Suffragists. Sir Edward Carson has for a long time been coquetting with Mrs. Pankhurstism, and some few days ago did an imitation of that famous lady which would have brought the house down as a variety "turn" at the Colosseum. Now Mr. Lyttelton has followed on with an "incitement" which, *The Globe* assures us, "was exactly what was wanted to put heart into the Unionist Party." He declared—and in declaring, decreed—that the Home Rule Bill passed would create civil war; and he stated that many officers and men in the army would mutiny rather than turn their weapons on loyal men. Which is all very well as far as it goes; but he must have been doing a little "inciting" in that direction too, to be so sure of his facts about those soldiers; and when Tom Mann did that he was arrested on a "grave charge." What we want to know is, why are not Carson, Lyttelton and Co. arrested for conspiracy and incitement, and as robbers and pillors from beyond the sea, and why is not *The Globe* suppressed? What is Mr. Bodkin doing? Here is a live, *bona-fide*, whole-hogging conspiracy, registered first-class A.I., copper-bottomed, at Lloyds or at Belfast, and *The Globe* says: "The preparations in Ulster are now so extensive and the feeling so strong, that any direct Government attack upon the leaders would merely precipitate an armed revolt." We forget what it was that *The Globe* said when the W.S.P.U. threatened vengeance if the Government touched or harmed their beloved leader; but what we really want to know is, why is not Mr. Bodkin saying something, and saying it sharp and quick?

Beating the Air.

Divorce Reform is one of the reforms long overdue in the British Isles. We call attention to the ludicrous attitude of the Government, which, after spending public money on a Commission, leaves all action to a Private Member. Sir David Brynmor Jones' Bill has as much chance of becoming law as a Suffrage or a Criminal Law Amendment Bill, without the Government Whips; and it is significant that the Bishop of London is already boasting that the minority report has killed the majority report! The Church, apparently, thinks, in spite of all age-long evidence and experience to the contrary, that men and women may best be made moral and pure by being condemned to unnecessary misery. Not so long ago, we remember, the Archbishop of Capetown engineered an attack on the merciful divorce laws of South Africa, which enable marriages to be dissolved for "malicious desertion." It would seem as if the attitude of the Church was almost as much as asking for misconduct, as the attitude of the Government is asking for militancy. When a bond that should be one of love becomes unbearable, nothing but gross misconduct is to loosen it; and as an instance of this doctrine, which is supported by State as well as Church, we quote Mr. Justice Darling's words:—"Practically men sold their wives for money down; and it was the business of the Divorce Court and the King's Proctor to see that it did not happen." That is to say, that when people are so desperately

anxious to get apart, they will do anything, short of breaking the Seventh Commandment; that is, when the Government is to decree that now they shall never be allowed to get free. The woman must *stay* with the man who would sell her; the man must *keep* the wife who would peril her reputation to escape him!

A Good Reason for Votes for Women.

Another Commission has just issued a report, which is probably all that will be heard of it. The jury system was under consideration; but the public had almost forgotten its existence, as it began its sittings in 1911. By far the larger and weightier number of recommendations sent in to this Commission concerned the admission of women to sit as jurors; but not one word of such a thing is to be found in the report! It would be interesting to know the reason of this startling silence; probably it is to be found in the fact that jurors are taken from the voting roll, subject to some other conditions. So the one disability entails the other; which is an extra reason for giving votes to women!

Male Militancy Again.

Male militancy is going ahead, in spite of votes, representatives, and the shocked disapproval evinced for the outbreaks of voteless women. In the Bradford strike of carters, these last few days, vans were escorted, as in the East of London, by mounted police; wagons and goods were overturned and strewn abroad in the streets; bakers' carts and greengrocers' goods were held up; coal was thrown about (poor housewives!), and a number of serious conflicts with the police took place, in which severe blows and wounds were exchanged and a fierce spirit displayed. Among the privileged goods for which "permits" were issued by the militant strikers for delivery were perishable stuffs for the hospital, and two wagon-loads of beer for the Trades Hall. *Vive la révolte*—but who says law-breakers must not be law-makers?

W. T. Stead's Memorial: Women's Tribute.

We have already welcomed the plan of international "Stead Hostels" for women workers as a fitting memorial to a life-long champion of the woman's cause, and one which would have commended itself to Mr. Stead, whose motto was "The union of all who love in the service of all who suffer." We now note with pleasure and interest that it has been proposed by the Memorial Committee that a hostel to be erected in London should be a woman's tribute to their friend, and that women's organisations all over the world should be specially associated with it. All information will be readily given by the hon. secretary of the Memorial Fund, Miss Josephine Marshall, Salve, Williford Way, Hendon, London, N.W.

Where the mind is without fear and the head is held high;
Where knowledge is free;
Where the world has not been broken up into fragments
by narrow domestic walls;
Where words come out from the depth of truth;
Where tireless striving stretches its arms towards perfection;
Where the clear stream of reason has not lost its way into
the dreary desert sand of dead habit;
Where the mind is led forward by Thee into ever-widening
thought and action—
Into that heaven of freedom, my Father, let my country
awake.

—From "Gitanjali," by Rabindra Nath Tagore, being
his rendering into English prose of his Bengali poems.

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WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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THE NEED OF WOMAN IN THE STATE BY COUNTESS ISKA TELEKI

(President of the Executive Committee, Budapest Congress, 1913, Women's International Suffrage Alliance).

Selma Lagerlöf, in the admirable address with which she opened the Sixth International Congress for Votes for Women (Stockholm, June, 1911), contrasts man as the builder of the State, with woman, the builder of the home, and comes to the conclusion that many of us have already seen, or at least heard of, perfect homes, but no one ever heard as yet of a perfect State. Therefore to Selma Lagerlöf it seems self-evident that as long as women are doomed to muteness and inactivity when that State structure is erected, altered or mended, perfection never was, never can be, attained. Selma Lagerlöf's idea is ripe to-day in many a mind. So much so, that already to many of us it seems absurd that brains capable of thought-power still exist and yet have not taken in the logic of our aims.

What is a nation? Only and exclusively the unit of millions of woman-made homes. Then, is it just, and has anybody the right, to exclude women, the mothers of men—the faithful builders and keepers of the home—from that body which discusses and passes laws concerning the welfare of that home?

* * * * *

To get nearest to the highest standards of ethics was always and must always remain the great aim of every civilisation. A nation, just as an individual, must be healthy in every respect, if it desires to be continuously victorious in the struggle for life. But can a nation be healthy when its prisons and lunatic asylums are filled with drunkards, and, worse than all, with the children of drunkards? Can a nation be considered healthy where pauperism flourishes like some terrible disease, and where those terrible diseases bred by sin ruin hundreds of thousands of lives? Can it be considered healthy when thousands of its youngest, fairest daughters are daily trapped, poached, and taken to market like especially delicate venison?

That half of the population which till now has had exclusively in its hands the means to make an end of all these shameful conditions will tell anyone who asks that they are very sorry indeed, but, "as it always was, so it must probably go on through all eternity."

As long as they are the lords of the situation it will, in all probability, remain thus, but the other half of the population, that half which from time immemorial worshipped cleanliness—cleanliness of soul as much as cleanliness of body—has slowly and gradually realised its latent powers, and now says: "Give us a chance! You, who long ago ceased to consider the breaking of the Seventh Commandment as a sin, but take it as a privilege of your sex, will not, perhaps cannot, cleanse the country from all these moral and physical diseases. Besides, your hands and brains are full on account of your perpetual, greater or lesser, wars, so for heaven's sake give us a chance! We, who can clean, and keep clean your home, can also solve ethical and hygienic problems, for which you neither have time nor inclination."

Though the one-half of the people—the kissing and killing half—does its utmost to prevent woman's enfranchisement, the woman, the mother of mankind, *must* win her Cause, when she determines earnestly and stubbornly to win it; for her Cause is the improvement and the welfare of future generations!

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. MILITANT BUT NOT VIOLENT.

The women's movement, in the United Kingdom, shows to the intelligent observer how wide is the circle to which it appeals by the growing number of its organisations. Far from being a bad sign, this is one of the most healthy symptoms possible. Besides the three great divisions, there are innumerable sectional societies for Women's Suffrage, such as those formed by the Women Writers, Nurses, Actresses, Teachers, Civil Servants, the Church (Anglican), Free Church and Catholic Women's Leagues, the London Graduates, Universities, Cymric (Welsh), Irish Women's Federation (including a number of different societies), and several other Irish organisations outside the Federation. There are also local suffrage bodies all over the country not affiliated to the larger bodies.

Of the three great groups, the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies includes three societies that have been in regular existence for nearly forty-five years. This federated body pursues a policy of strictly constitutional propaganda, and has lately pledged itself to the support of the Labour Party. The Women's Social and Political Union was the first militant society, and was composed of many ardent members of the older society who were tired of methods that seemed unsuccessful; and of members of the Independent Labour Party who were disgusted with the small support given to the women by those for whom they had worked, whether Liberal or Labour politicians. The Women's Freedom League was brought into being by what was held to be a grave attack on the rights of members when a self-elected council assumed autocratic control of the new fighting union.

The Women's Freedom League, therefore, stands for the rights of the people. It demands self-Government for all, and grants it. It is ruled by an annual conference of delegates, who map out the policy and elect an executive. It has many Branches, and pursues a militant and anti-Government policy, that is to say, it attacks whatever Government may be in power so long as votes be denied to women. The acts of militancy carried out by this society have been daring, original, and never of a violent character. The other militant society, since November, 1911 (when the threat of manhood suffrage was made), has carried out attacks on the property of the public; the Women's Freedom League has maintained unchanged its attitude of attacking the law only, and in exposing various forms of maladministration and sex injustice.

The militant protests of the Women's Freedom League have most frequently been directed to showing how the male government of the country breaks the spirit of the Constitution under which it exists. It claims that representative government should be representative of the people, men and women, not men only; and that civilised government depends, not on force, but on the consent of the governed. Therefore, it resists new laws, such as the National Insurance Act, passed without consulting women; it refuses to comply with the Census, saying if women do not count, women shall not be counted; it refuses all taxation, by passive resistance, on the ground that taxation without representation is tyranny. This form of protest, as well as the Census resistance, was enthusiastically adopted by many other bodies, and is now carried out in an organised fashion all over the country. The League has carried out a number of picturesque and educative schemes which have, while illustrating the Cause, given much amusement, as well as information, to the public.

The President of the League, Mrs. Despard, is widely known as an indefatigable worker on behalf of the poor. In Poor-law and on School Boards, and as the inaugurator of a clinic for school children, she has given splendid service to the State. Another well-known member who has also taken a prominent part in school and local government matters is Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, whose name is historic.

The Women's Freedom League asks for the vote "on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men," and aims at securing for women complete political, industrial, and constitutional equality with men. It is independent of all political parties. Many of its members have suffered imprisonment, including Mrs. Despard, who has been five times sentenced. It is claimed for it by its members that it represents in its acts and in intention the spirit of the truest democracy.

It will be seen, therefore, that the Women's Freedom League

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fills an important place, between the extreme militant wing and the completely pacific body, of the women's movement. Its protests are logical and based on the principles of constitutional liberty, and its ideal is true freedom and real democracy.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. MILITANTE MAIS NON PAR LA VIOLENCE.

Tout le monde qui observe avec intelligence l'agitation des Femmes dans le Royaume-Uni peut remarquer combien est grand l'auditoire auquel, par raison de ses organisations qui s'accroissent sans cesse, cette agitation fait appel. Loin d'être un indice de mauvais augure c'est bien un symptôme des plus sains possibles. A part des trois grandes divisions il y a des sociétés innombrables de section, dont le but est le suffrage pour les femmes. De ce genre sont les sociétés formées par les Femmes-Ecrivains, par les Gardes-malades, par les Actrices, par les Institutrices, par les Employées aux Bureaux d'Etat, par l'Eglise Anglicaine, par les Eglises Protestantes et Libres, par la Ligue des Femmes Catholiques, par la Fédération des Femmes Irlandaises (y compris bien des sociétés différentes) et par plusieurs autres organisations irlandaises hors de la fédération. Partout dans le pays on trouve les sociétés locales qui existent pour demander le suffrage, quoiqu'elles ne soient pas affiliées aux corps plus grands.

De ces trois grands groupes, The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies comprend trois sociétés qui ont existé formellement depuis presque quarante-cinq ans. Ce corps fédéré est voué à une politique de propagande rigoureusement constitutionnelle, et dernièrement elle s'est engagée au support de la "Labour Party."

"The Women's Social and Political Union" a été la première société militante, et se composait de bien des membres enthousiastes de la société plus ancienne, lesquels se fatiguaient de méthodes qui semblaient avoir peu de succès; et des membres de la "Independent Labour Party" qui se dégoutaient à cause de la petitesse du support accordé aux femmes par ceux qu'elles avaient servis—soit par les politiques "Labour" aussi bien que par les "Liberals." The Women's Freedom League est formée à cause de ce qu'on a considéré une attaque grave sur les droits de membres au moment où un conseil élu par soi-même a saisi la direction, et cela d'une manière autocratique, de la nouvelle union militante.

Voici, donc, The Women's Freedom League représente tout simplement les droits du peuple. Elle demande pour tous le gouvernement par eux-mêmes; elle l'accorde. Pour sa part, elle est gouvernée par une Conférence Annuelle de délégués, qui en designe la politique et qui en nomment le pouvoir exécutif. Elle a beaucoup de succursales, sa politique est militante et anti-gouvernementale—c'est à dire elle attaque tout gouvernement pourvu seulement qu'il refuse le suffrage aux femmes. Tout ce qu'a fait cette société a été hardi, téméraire, original, mais jamais violent. L'autre société militante depuis novembre, 1911 (lorsqu'on a formulé la menace de suffrage pour tous les hommes) a attaqué la propriété du public, tandis que la ligue a maintenu sans aucun changement sa politique d'attaquer seulement la loi et de mettre à jour les formes diverses de maladministration et d'injustice en ce qui concerne les sexes.

Les protestations militantes de The Women's Freedom League ont eu pour but l'exposition des artifices par lesquels le gouvernement—gouvernement par les hommes, bien entendu—évite l'esprit de la Constitution auquel il doit son existence. Cette Ligue demande que le gouvernement soit vraiment représentatif du peuple, les Hommes et les Femmes, non pas des Hommes seulement; et que le gouvernement ne dépend aucunement de la force mais bien du consentement des gouvernés et des gouvernées. Donc elle s'oppose aux lois nouvelles (telles que l'Acte d'Assurance Nationale, devenu loi sans consulter les Femmes); elle refuse les renseignements nécessaires au Censur, car elle dit, "S'il n'importe rien ce que pensent les femmes, il n'importe rien qu'elles soient numérotées"; enfin, elle oppose une résistance passive à toute la taxation, car elle maintient que toute la taxation sans représentation est de la tyrannie. Cette espèce de protestation, aussi bien que la résistance au Censur, a été adoptée par beaucoup d'autres corporations, et maintenant elle se fait d'une façon organisée partout dans le pays. Elle a produit bien des projets

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pittoresques pour l'éducation, qui ont bien amusé et renseigné le public, tout en illustrant la Cause.

La Présidente de la Ligue, Mme. Despard, est bien connue pour son travail indéfatigable pour les pauvres. A l'Assistance Publique, sur les Conseils des Ecoles, en établissant une clinique pour les enfants, elle a servi magnifiquement l'Etat. Un autre membre, bien connu aux affaires qui concernent la bonne règle des écoles et du gouvernement local, c'est Mme. Cobden-Sanderson, dont le nom fait partie de l'histoire.

La Ligue demande la voix, "sur les conditions identiques qu'elle est ou qu'elle soit à l'avenir accordé aux hommes." Elle se promet d'obtenir pour les femmes l'égalité parfaite—égalité politique, industrielle, constitutionnelle—ainsi qu'aux hommes. Elle ne dépend d'aucune partie politique. Beaucoup de ses membres ont souffert l'emprisonnement—Mme. Despard a été condamnée cinq fois. Ses membres affirment que cette société représente, par ses actions et par son intention la démocratie la plus vraie.

Il semble donc que la Ligue occupe une position importante entre l'aile des militantes extrêmes et la partie absolument pacifique de l'agitation féministe. Ses protestations sont logiques, et se basent sur les principes de la liberté constitutionnelle; son idéal est la liberté vraie et la démocratie réelle.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE. MILITÄERISCH ABER NICHT GEFAEHRLICH.

Die immer zunehmende Anzahl ihrer Organisationen beweist jedem verständigem Zuschauer, wie weit sich der Kreis, der von der Frauenbewegung in dem vereinigten Königreiche beeinflusst wird, ausgedehnt hat. Es ist dies nicht, wie man vielleicht annehmen konnte, ein schlechtes Symptom,—sondern im Gegenteil, es ist als ein höchst gesundes Zeichen zu betrachten, das ausser den drei wohlbekanntesten Hauptabteilungen noch eine unzählige Menge kleiner Vereine, die das Gewinnen der Frauenwahlstimme zum Zweck haben, in sich schliesst. Derartige kleine Vereine sind z. B.: Verein der Schriftstellerinnen, Krankenpflegerinnen, Schauspielerinnen, Lehrerinnen, Vereinigung der Frauen, die im Staatsdienste stehen, Bündnisse deren Mitglieder den englischen Staats—oder Staatsabweichenden Kirchen, oder auch der Römisch Katholischen Kirche angehören. Ausser einer grossen Anzahl nicht erwählten Vereine gibt es auch ueberall im Lande, auch in Irland, oertliche Gesellschaften zur Befoerderung der Frauenwahlstimme, welche aber mit den Kampfparteien keineswegs in Verbindung stehen.

Wenden wir uns nun zu den drei Hauptparteien selbst. Es ist hier zu bemerken, dass "The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies" drei andere Vereine einschliesst, welche seit ungefaehr 45 Jahren bestehen. Diese verbundene Koerperschaft sucht ihren Zweck allein auf konstitutionellem Wege zu erreichen, und hat sich in letzter Zeit zur Unterstuetzung der "Labour Party" verpflichtet.

"The Women's Social and Political Union" war die erste sich gegen den Staat emporende Vereinigung, und bestand aus vielen eifrigen Mitgliedern der alteren Partei, die sich aber infolge des voraussichtlichen Misserfolges zurueckzogen. Ferner gesellten sich zu ihnen die Mitglieder der "Independent Labour Party," welche entrueestet waren ueber die kleine Unterstuetzung, welche den Frauen von Seiten derer zu Teil wurde, fuer welche sie gearbeitet hatten—weder von den Liberal, noch Labour Politicians. "The Women's Freedom League" wurde ins Leben gerufen und machte einen harten Angriff auf die Rechte der Mitglieder, denn zu dieser Zeit nahm eine selbst erwählte Ratsversammlung sogar eine autokratische Aufsicht ueber die neue streitende Partei an.

"The Women's Freedom League" ist daher fuer die Rechte des Volkes. Sie fordert vor allen Dingen eine eigene Regierungsform und gesteht sie zu. Sie wird verwaltet durch eine jaehrliche Versammlung der Abgeordneten, welche Aufschluss geben ueber die Politik und einen Rechtsvertreter wahlen. Sie hat viele Unterabteilungen und verfolgt eine militaerische aber gegen die Regierung gerichtete Politik,—mit anderen Worten sie greift solange an was in der Macht der Regierung steht, solange den Frauen ihre Stimme enthalten wird. Die Streitakte, hervorgerufen durch diese Vereinigung sind bis jetzt zwar herausfordernd, aber niemals von heftigem Charakter gewesen. Die andere streitende Partei, hat seit November, 1911, Angriffe auf Gemeineigentum gemacht. "The Women's Freedom League" dagegen hat unverändert ihren Angriff nur gegen die Staatsverwaltung aufrechterhalten.

Die Streitproteste der "Women's Freedom League" sind am meisten dahin gerichtet zu zeigen wie die maennlichen Abgeordneten des Landes die Gesetzesverfassung stuerzen unter der sie bestehen. Sie fordert dass das Representative Government das Volk vertreten soll, Maenner und Frauen, nicht Maenner allein, und dass das Civilisierte Government nicht von Gewalt abhaengt, sondern von der Zustimmung der Regierten. Es kommen daher neue Gesetze zu Stande wie z. B. "The National Insurance Act," welche in Kraft treten, ohne Zustimmung der Frauen.

Sie verweigert sich der Volkszaehlung zu fügen, lediglich aus dem Grunde, weil Frauen Nichts zahlen, Frauen sollen nicht gezahlt werden. Sie verwuerft mit allen Mitteln jaegliche Steuern und zwar aus dem Grunde, weil eine Erhebung von Steuern ohne Volksvertretung Tyrannie ist. Diese Form des Protestes ebenso wie der Widerstand des Volkes wurden von vielen anderen Koerperschaften begeistert aufgenommen, und sind, jetzt in organisierter Form ueber das ganze Land verbreitet.

Die "Women's Freedom League" hat eine Anzahl musterhafter und erzieherischer Plaene verbreitet, durch welche, waehrend sie die Ursache erlaeuern, das Volk erfreut, gleichzeitig aber auch aufgekläert wurde.

Die Presidentin der "Women's Freedom League," Mrs. Despard, ist genuegend als ein unermuedlicher Arbeiter fuer den Nutzen der Armen bekannt. Durch das "Poor Law" sowie durch das Schulgesetz ferner dadurch, dass sie den Bau einer Kinder-Klinik veranlasst hat, hat sie dem Staate ausgezeichnete Dienste erwiesen. Ein anderes wohlbekanntes Mitglied, welches ebenfalls ein hervorragendes Anteil an Schul- sowie oertlichen Verwaltungs-angelegenheiten hat, ist Mrs. Cobden-Sanderson, deren Namen historisch ist.

Die "Women's Freedom League" fordert die Stimme aus demselben Grunde, aus welchem sie den Maennern zugesprochen worden ist oder sein mag, und trachtet danach fuer die Frauen eine den Maennern in politischer, industrieller und constitutioneller Hinsicht gleichstehende Stufe zu erreichen. Sie ist unabhængig von allen politischen Parteien. Viele ihrer Mitglieder haben Gefaengnisstrafen erduldet, einschliesslich Mrs. Despard, welche nicht weniger als funf Mal verurteilt worden ist, ihre Mitglieder fordern, dass sie in ihren Handlungen und Absichten den Willen einer wirklichen Volksregierung vertritt.

Es ist daher zu ersehen, dass die "Women's Freedom League" einen bedeutenden Platz einnimmt zwischen der hoechst streitenden und der vollkommenen ruhigen Partei der Frauenbewegung. Ihre Proteste sind logisch und auf den Principien einer constitutionellen Freiheit aufgebaut, und ihre Ideale sind: Wahre Freiheit und wirkliche Volksherrschaft.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

Wednesday Afternoon Public Meetings, at Portman Rooms, Baker-street, W. (entrance in Dorset-street).—The following meetings have been arranged:—**June 18:** Miss Abram, D.Sc., F.R.Hist.S., on "English-women in the Later Middle Ages," and Mr. J. Cameron Grant on "The Correlation of Sex." **June 25:** The Rev. W. Moritz Weston, D.D., Ph.D., on "The Economic Independence of Women in Relation to the Marriage Question." **July 2:** Dr. Josiah Oldfield on "Food, Fasting, and Freedom." We urge all our friends to support us by coming in as large numbers as possible to these meetings. The chair will be taken on each occasion at 3.30.

MEETING at 117, Westbourne-grove, Bayswater, W. (first floor), by kind permission of Miss Langridge, on Monday next (June 9), at 8 p.m. Mrs. Violet Tempest has kindly promised to lecture on "White and Brown Slavery in India." This will be followed by a discussion. Admission free.

Captain Carey's Health Food Talk.—On Friday, June 13, our good friend and associate, Captain Walter Carey, is kindly giving the second of his Health Food Talks at 8 p.m., at the office. All who heard his first lecture will wish to know more about this important subject, and it will be equally interesting to any who were prevented from attending last month. At the conclusion of the Talk, a number of very appetising and exciting home made dishes will be sold by Mrs. Carey for the benefit of the League.

Literature Department.—*Mr. Jones and the Government.* G. Colmore. Price 6d. *Frances Mary Buss.* Marion Holmes. A Cameo Life-Sketch. 3d.

Will members and readers buy their cigarettes, "Votes for Women" on each, through us to help the Cause? Turkish, 6s. 100; Egyptian, 5s. 4d. 100; Virginian, 4s. Postage, 2d. per 100.

THE PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY GIFT. Second Year.

The President's Birthday Reception is fixed for July 10. Now we must all set to work and have the Birthday Gift of £1,000 (for the work of the League) ready by that date. With last year's experience to guide us we can do this. Every Branch and member is welcoming this opportunity, that comes once a year, to show appreciation of all the unremitting, cheery work of our President for the good of the League, in travelling, speaking, and constant thought. I am asking all Branch members to get their-collecting cards from their hon. secretary, and I hope that all outside friends will apply to me for them.

I shall be very grateful for suggestions from any quarter.
E. KNIGHT.

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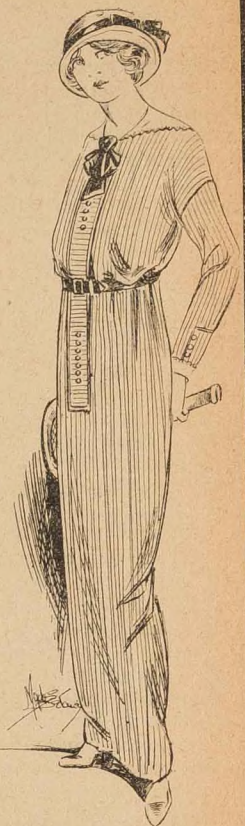
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POLITICAL AND MILITANT.

The Women's Freedom League held a meeting on Tuesday afternoon, during the crowded part of the day, in Room 5 of the Royal Academy. Miss Constance Andrews, supported by Miss Gibson and a number of members of the League, took up her position at about 3.15, displaying the W.F.L. colours, and had time for an effective and well-delivered speech before the attendants could summon the police. The ladies were ejected without arrest, some of the involuntary audience showing much interest, while others left the room or gave expression to their feelings with the usual discourtesy.

OUR TREASURY. NATIONAL FUND.

(Branch and District Funds not Included.)

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1912. £17,272 4s. 11d.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Amount previously acknowledged	716 5 3	Mrs. N. Crossland	0 10 0
Miss M. Abbott	5 0 0	Miss M. I. Saunders	0 10 0
Mrs. Walter Carey	5 0 0	Mrs. F. Thomas	0 6 0
Miss H. Fryer	2 2 0	Miss E. T. Fox Bourne	0 5 0
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Buckhurst Hill Branch of Women's Franchise Society	0 10 6	Capitation Fees:	
Mrs. Braithwaite	0 10 0	Bournemouth	0 0 6
		Sheffield	0 8 0
			£766 11 1

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League, and crossed "London and South Western Bank, Ltd."

SWEATED WOMEN.

It is a pity we cannot have a permanent exhibition of the sweated women workers of this great and glorious empire. That organised by the Women Writers' Suffrage League and the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, on May 28, gave those who know nothing of this vast underworld of grinding toil on which our prosperous nation is built the chance of a passing glimpse, if they happen to have had time to look in. But such a glimpse should be always available in order that more than a mere handful of the public should become a little acquainted with the conditions under which millions of their countrywomen are forced to exist.

Twelve different industries were represented. They were perforce selected from those whose work could be shown independent of machinery. Each worker sat busily plying her trade. No machinery could exceed the speed, the deadly precision and the unwearying continuance of those workers. They never paused unless to answer a question or show an inquirer the nature of their task. Yet one woman remarked with a patient smile: "I don't call this work; why, this is a rare treat, an outing, the only outing I've had for many a long year."

The wages of all averaged about the same—i.e., six to seven shilling a week for ten to twelve hours a day. One or two earned less, such for instance as the maker of black braid, the rate paid being 7d. per dozen yards; time taken, eight hours per dozen yards. The shirt-maker's condition can scarcely be said to have improved since the days of Hood, for working like a motor at top speed she only earns about 2d. an hour, and has to supply her own sewing machine.

It is almost impossible to find any of these women-workers who are not supporting others besides themselves, and even in such cases they have done so and will probably do so again. One ancient dame on the verge of seventy, a flower-maker since the age of ten, had until recently, when she became a widow, supported herself and an old husband, the latter blind for seven years before his death. Working twelve hours a day she can earn about eight shillings a week, and is proud to tell you that she managed on this without parish or any other aid. Her fine grave old face lit up as I said: "What a good thing you've not long to wait for your seventieth birthday."

Another worker, a pale, sweet-faced little woman of about thirty-five, was supporting an invalid husband and seven children, the youngest eight months old. The husband had been unable to work for four years owing to an accident for which he could get no compensation, the employer having gone bankrupt. Her work was trouser finishing, each pair requiring the lining to be sewn in, fourteen buttons to be put on and six button-holes made. By superhuman effort two of these garments can be done in an hour with the assistance of the husband, who sews on the twenty-eight buttons. Recent Trade Board regulations have raised the pay from 1d. to 1½d. a pair, and also oblige a minimum wage in this work of 3½d. an hour. The way in which this apparently excellent rule works out is instructive. In order to obtain the work the women are obliged to declare that they can make three of these garments in an hour, otherwise the applicant would be dismissed as too slow a worker. The pace is accelerated in order to fulfil the required conditions of pay, a pace that kills, and is even then a physical impossibility. The difficulty is met either by working far into the night or getting help, as in the case of the sick husband who came to the rescue.

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 We have recovered or saved Large Sums for Women Taxpayers.
WHY NOT CONSULT US? IT WILL COST YOU NOTHING
 Women Taxpayers' Agency (Mrs. E. Ayres Purdie)
 Hampden House, Kingsway, W.C. Tel. 6040 Central.

In many industries an outlay has to be made by the worker from her slender pay. The maker of rounder boots has to buy her own tools, which require renewing every few months, and also all the rivets, which cost sixpence per dozen pairs. Her pay is 3½d. per pair, and the time taken is one and a-half to two hours each pair, her working day ten to twelve hours standing all the time.

The most noticeable thing about all these women was their remarkable efficiency. Only this quality enabled them to obtain these wages. What of the inefficient?

The work of these women is but partially represented by these long hours of toil. They are the keepers of a home, the cook, the laundress, the house cleaner to a family in most instances, and in many the bearers and rearers of children. This is how the great British Empire cares for the mothers of her sons, quite forgetting that the sons must suffer through these over-worked, under-paid, ill-fed mothers.

That great talker, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, so completely forgets his own poor working mother that he passes a Bill to hand over the money due to a mother and her new-born infant to the father and the public-house he may frequent. This gentleman shows the same confusion of ideas as the tribe mentioned by Herbert Spencer, who celebrate the birth of a child by a great feast, on which occasion the father receives the guests in bed with the baby, and the mother rises and waits on the company. He needs a glimpse into the Sweated Women's Exhibition to refresh his memory with some of the facts of life.

CONSTANCE E. MAUD.

PRIZE COMPETITION. ANSWERS TO ANTI-S.

We offer each week a PRIZE FOR THE BEST ANSWER to Anti-Suffrage objections. The winning answer will be published in THE VOTE.

This week's objection is:

Women Would Lose Their Charm.

The answer is limited to sixty words; it may be grave or gay.

RULES.

1. The competition is open to all our readers.
2. Each answer must be accompanied by the coupon below, and give the name and address of the sender.
3. Answers, written on one side only of the paper, must be addressed to the Editor, VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C., the envelope marked *Prize Competition*, and must reach the VOTE Office on Monday, June 16, 1913. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient if the flap of the envelope is tucked inside.
4. Competitors may send as many answers as they like, provided each is accompanied by a coupon. The prize will be a lace collar.

COUPON.

"VOTE" PRIZE COMPETITION.

Name

Address

RESULT: POLITICS DO NOT CONCERN WOMEN.

The judges have awarded the prize to Miss E. E. Appleton, 49, Hertford-road, Bootle, Liverpool. Her answer is as follows: "Politics (making of laws) concern all who must obey them; all who are affected by them; all with whose interests they meddle.

"Therefore, politics do concern women, whose births are registered, education settled, occupation and its conditions regulated, insurance premiums and Income-tax secured, marriage, separation or divorce controlled, nationality altered, food taxed, will framed, and burial conducted by law!

"49, Hertford-road, Bootle. E. E. APPLETON."

IT IS EASY TO FIND THE WAY to 4, Maddox-street, where John M. Bult makes ladies' suits to measure in the newest styles for 4½ guineas and upwards. You may be sure of perfect fit.

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A perusal of the illustrated catalogue of the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company, Ltd.—which can be obtained post free from 112, Regent-street, London, W.—convinces me that purchasers of gem jewellery and gold and silver plate may there obtain the utmost value for their money.



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THE LEGAL POSITION OF WOMEN IN THE BRITISH ISLES.

By HELENA NORMANTON, B.A. (Honours), London.

I. In the Family and Home.

There are still evil survivals of the Law of Coverture and Marital Authority. A British husband may not now inflict corporal punishment on his wife, but may "deprive her of her liberty in case of her gross misbehaviour." With regard to the important question of maintenance, a wife can obtain the necessities of life for herself and children from a recalcitrant husband either by pledging his credit or by becoming chargeable to the local Poor-law authority; in which case the Guardians recover the cost of such maintenance. Both these methods are *prima facie* undignified and undesirable. A woman is not bound to support a husband or children unless he or they become destitute and chargeable to the Poor-law authority.

A woman married since the passage of the Married Women's Property Act of 1883 has absolute control over her own present and future property. But as her person is her husband's chattel under the Law of Coverture, she cannot be imprisoned for non-compliance with the order of a court to pay a debt. This apparent privilege is really prejudicial as it lessens her weight of just liability in the business world. Power to neglect fulfilling a contract without incurring punishment (such cases arise under special circumstances through this Act) is by no means a commercial asset in the long run.

The worst feature of the married state is that the law enforces no payment for the services rendered by the wife in the house. The work, however difficult or skilled, is rewarded only by subsistence and voluntary gifts by the husband, both absolutely at his discretion.

A married woman needs her husband's consent to contract legally for employment. Savings made from housekeeping allowances, even if made by especial skill in domestic arts, belong by law to the husband.

The glaring inequalities of the Divorce Laws for men and women can be briefly summarised by stating that infidelity *only* on the part of the woman renders her liable to divorce, whilst cruelty or desertion must also be proved if the man is the guilty party. A man may obtain damages against the co-respondent who has robbed him of his wife's "honour." A woman cannot sue another woman for damages for robbing her of her husband's "honour."

A wife is bound to follow her husband's domicile or lose her right (such as it is!) to maintenance. An Englishwoman marrying a foreigner loses her English nationality. Well might she be content to do so, as far as forfeiting anything worth having is concerned, if she marries a subject of the United States or one of our colonies! But in the case of an Englishwoman marrying into any other European nation she may gain little and lose more.

The mother is, of course, not the "parent" of any children born in wedlock. The father has complete control. He decides all questions arising as to their religious and secular education, and they follow him in nationality. But when penalties are imposed, as for cruelty or immoral teaching, the mother shares a liability to punishment and frequently is punished.

A woman has the sole responsibility for her illegitimate child. She can obtain from the father the expenses of confinement and a maintenance allowance not exceeding five shillings weekly until the child is sixteen years old, or may commute this for a lump sum. Such a mother may be prosecuted for concealment of birth, neglect, or ill-treatment. One very distressing feature of the laws concerning illegitimacy is that an illegitimate child cannot be legally adopted. This seems needlessly harsh and is difficult to understand: for, seeing that about half the children born illegitimate are boys, the law here evidently operates as sharply against the male as against the female, and this rough "justice" between the sexes is surprising in view of the general cruel bias of the law against women. The fact that an illegitimate child, whether male or female, has no claim on the estate of either parent, calls for similar comment.

A mother may appoint a guardian for an illegitimate child, but should a wife appoint a guardian in case she predeceases husband and children, her husband is not bound to accept him. A widow is, however, compelled to accept as guardian for her children anyone appointed under her late husband's will.

The laws relating to inheritance and intestacy show the same spirit as the rest. If a wife dies intestate the husband gets everything and the children nothing. Consequently he may squander every penny and the children be homeless. A man is not bound by law to leave anything to his wife, but if he should die intestate and there are no children, she gets one-third of his income from landed property, the Crown taking the other two-thirds. Women married before the Act of 1883 cannot dispose of their property by deed or will unless it was acquired since that date.

Women are liable to support their parents as much as men are.

There are important local variations to these laws in Scotland and Ireland. Generally it may be stated that those in Scotland are more favourable, those in Ireland more prejudicial. In Scotland a married woman retains her maiden surname for all legal purposes, being cited on legal documents—Christian Name. Surname (maiden) or Surname (husband's).

The conditions which give rise to divorce are the same for

husband and wife—namely, infidelity. A husband cannot disinherit his wife: she gets one-third of his moveable estate and life rent of one-third his real estate. But if the wife dies intestate the husband gets the life rent of the whole of the heritable estate, the remainder passing to the woman's next-of-kin.

On the other hand there are some provisions in Scotch law which seem harsher even than the English. A husband has a very complete legal control of the home. He may even forbid his wife to receive visitors. Moreover, a wife may not be operated upon without the husband's consent. A mother's authority over her children is as much as a nurse's or teacher's appointed by the father, and no more. Should a woman be separated from her husband and her child meet with an injury for which the father could claim damages from the person guilty of that injury, the mother could obtain no legal reparation—not even if she were maintaining the child.

The mother of an illegitimate child may obtain from the father for its maintenance £8 a year. Subsequent marriage of the parents legitimises illegitimate children if no legal obstacle existed to marriage at the time of conception.

In Ireland the legal position of women is bad. The Married Women's Property Act of 1908 does not apply to Ireland. Divorce is, in practice, possible only for the rich, so that the inequality of requiring proof of cruelty or desertion by the man and not by the woman is more theoretical than practical; nevertheless it exists. A private Act of Parliament, very costly to obtain, is necessary for a complete divorce. Magistrates have not the power to grant separation orders as in England.

The power of the father over the children is very complete; the children must be brought up in their father's religion and the courts will order this even in the case of a widowed mother maintaining her children and wishing to rear them in another form of religion.

Affiliation orders are extremely difficult to obtain. The mother has to go into the workhouse and the Guardians then sue. Even if they are successful, financial benefit ceases when the woman leaves the workhouse. The process is slow and leaves an evasive father plenty of time to avoid his responsibilities.

II. Local Government.

A somewhat more cheerful prospect unrolls before the vision when Local Government is contemplated, although marriage, which so frequently is supposed to raise woman in social status, has a depressing effect upon her civic position. A single woman may vote in elections for County Councils, Town Councils, Urban and Rural District Councils, Metropolitan Borough Councils, Boards of Guardians and Parish Councils. Her franchise qualification is occupancy of house, land, or place of business at not less than £10 annual rent. Owner, lodger, and "service" franchise are not granted her. No married woman in England or Wales may vote for a Town Councillor, but in London she may vote at elections held for the London County Councils.

The offices a woman may hold are: Councillor or Alderman of any County or Borough, or Councillor of a District or Urban Council, or Poor-law Guardian. The posts held by women under the English system of Local Government are the following:—Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages, School Teacher, Justice of the Peace (for certification of lunacy), Sanitary and Factory Inspectors, Health Visitors, Nurses (School and Poor-law), and various posts tenable under the Poor-law system.

In Scotland marriage is not quite so much a bar to local voting, except that husband and wife may not vote in connection with the same house.

A large and increasing field of labour seems to be opening to women in connection with Local Government, and probably only the exhausting nature of the struggle for the State franchise prevents women from doing much more than at present in this sphere of labour.

III. In the Professions.

A woman may become a doctor, teacher, artist of any kind and graduate of all British Universities except Oxford and Cambridge. She may not enter the Army or Navy, the Law, the Stock Exchange, or the Royal Academy (as member), nor may she obtain any of the greater Civil Service posts except one or two in connection with Labour Exchanges and the recent Insurance Act. The women Commissioners under this Act are paid at the same rate as the men. In Scotland no women are Bankers, Chartered Accountants, Engineers or Actuaries. In Ireland some women hold Professorships at Universities.

IV. In the State.

(a) *Penal Laws with Reference to Morals.*
A "privilege" for which few women feel any gratitude or pride, seeing that its origin lies in the infamous Law of Coverture, is that a wife arrested on a criminal charge may plead her husband's consent or direction. This, however, would seldom be done in a present-day trial. The wife, or more probably both, would plead "Not guilty."

In a recent case *celebre* the husband was found guilty and the wife not guilty, although from the nature of the evidence complicity seemed exceedingly probable. Such a law and custom is weakening to the very fibre of society; the real duty of a

woman married to a man attempting to direct her into criminal paths is to lay information against him, assuming her dissuasion to have proved powerless.

The laws more expressly relating to morals are exceedingly unsatisfactory. Rape and seduction vary as crimes according to the age of child or girl. Assault on a child under thirteen is a felony for which no justification is pleadable in law; but the maximum penalty is astonishingly low, being only three years. Seeing that malicious damage to property may involve a sentence of fourteen years, it is evident that the law places a much higher value on inanimate objects than on human souls and bodies. Assault on a girl aged between thirteen and sixteen is a "misdemeanour," punishable by imprisonment, hard labour or penal servitude. But the criminal may plead belief that the girl was over sixteen as a justification (!)

Seduction of a girl of over sixteen renders the seducer liable to an action for damages by her father, who may urge "loss of service." It is extraordinary that the law which will not terminate even royal minority till the age of eighteen, nor minority with respect to property till that of twenty-one, should regard a child of sixteen as having the right to ruin her existence by a voluntary surrender of chastity.

Abduction from home of a girl from sixteen to eighteen is punishable by two years' imprisonment, unless the abductor convinces the court that he believed the girl to be above eighteen.

In breach of promise actions damages may lie against either party. The fact that damages are more frequently obtained by women is because previous seduction is a common feature of such cases and this may have caused blemished reputation, resulting in loss of occupation.

Women can be and are prosecuted and imprisoned in great numbers for "solicitation." When committed by men this offence is called "molestation."

There is no State regulation of vice, except that in the Channel Islands known or suspected prostitutes may be examined and, if foreign and diseased, deported.

There are instead a few statutes which make farcical attempts to suppress vice by every means except the only one which might have any effect—i.e., compulsory minimum wages for women's work.

Some recent legislation intended to be beneficial has proved more or less penal in its effects. The recent Insurance Act inflicts a host of injustices upon women. To cite two only. Where a woman should receive 8s. 10d. (11fr. 25c.) she actually gets 7s. 6d. (9fr. 50c.). The whole of the maternity benefits payable to unmarried mothers with respect to illegitimate children come from the Women's National Fund, which is separate from that of the men. In other words, chaste women are penalised for the consequences of the unchastity of men.

(b) *State Rights.*

Nil. A woman has no vote for nor possible seat in the House of Commons. Nor if she is a peeress in her own right may she have a seat in the House of Lords.

AN OBJECT-LESSON.

"Tell the mothers of England the Army will never be right till they give us more men for the infantry."

These are not the words of that great megalomaniac drunk with blood and conquest one hundred years ago, but of a Christian man, a Catholic priest, and presumably a servant of Christ, the Prince of Peace.

It is for this, then, that mothers are to bring forth sons in their agony, that the Army may be provided with *chaire au canon* to satisfy the blood-lust of some ambitious monarch or the bungling quarrels of rival politicians.

It is the twentieth century. Science has brought the brutal game of war to a perfection of horror that ought to make an end of it. In every country the more thoughtful and humane are protesting against the mighty armaments; all France is placarded with an eloquent appeal against the uselessness of further military sacrifice; the vast majority of Germans are on the side of peace. Public opinion is far ahead of Jingo generals and priests; we have more understanding than our teachers, and both Christian and free-thinker have a higher reverence for human life than this reverend father in God.

Many of us hold the theory that killing is murder even when done in uniform, and we commend the sixth commandment for the next meditation of Father Bernard Vaughan.

Nigh on two thousand years of Christianity, and how far are our teachers from the vision of Isaiah and his prophecy of the coming of the Kingdom of Christ, when "they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nations shall not lift

up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more?"

Before now women have complained of the military spirit, of men's quarrels and wars, and the general mismanagement of the State.

"Tell me how it is, husband, that you manage these matters so foolishly?" asked Lysistrata.

"War shall be a care to men."

"War," came the reply, "shall be a care to women. We bear more than twice as much of it as you do, we who first bore sons and sent them forth as hoplites. I have a part in the contribution, for I contribute men. There is no occasion for this war. It was determined by us women, being assembled to save Greece, that these wars should stop."

No one heeded the cry of the women of Greece; no one gave them the power to stay the doom that their quick instincts seem to have foreseen was coming upon their country. Their sons were slain with the sword, their maidens were not given in marriage. Life was becoming intolerable. Was it worth while bearing children under such conditions?

Let the men who govern us answer that question to-day, for the women of Greece had no answer but ridicule. The Nemesis came, and where is that great empire now?

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

TO OUR READERS.

DEAR FRIENDS AND FELLOW-MEMBERS.—I hope and believe that there is no one of us belonging to or interested in the Women's Freedom League who will not welcome, in a special manner, the current issue of our VOTE. We are Suffragists; we are earnest fighters in the battle for Woman's Freedom in our own country because we are convinced that "righteousness uplifteth a nation," and we desire for our country the noblest of destinies and the highest of gifts. But we are more. It has come to a great many of those who are engaged in this movement that it is not national only, it is international, it is inter-racial. We have looked out over society. We have gone down into the underworld. Some of its sorrows we have gauged. Some of its pangs we have felt. We believe these sorrows can be removed and many of these pangs relieved. Redemption can be achieved; and in woman largely the redemptive force is to be found.

Therefore, when it is question of these citizen-rights which, in the near future, will make it possible for woman to enter, unhampered, on her great work, we rejoice to know that the women of all nations are entering into council one with the other.

I am going to Budapest to represent, as a fraternal delegate, the League we love so truly. We are glad and proud to know that Miss Nina Boyle, head of our Political and Militant, and also representing the women of South Africa, Miss Eunice Murray, of our Scottish Branches Council, and Mrs. Wood, who specially represents all our VOTE stands for, are to form part of the great company of patriots and world-lovers who will be gathered together next week in the beautiful capital of Hungary to compare experiences and take counsel one of the other.

Personally, and for some other reasons, I am sorry to leave you at this critical moment, for I know that arduous work has to be done, and our working-force is never great enough for our need. But I feel (and you, I am sure, will agree with me) that it is part of our work to carry the flag of Women's Freedom into other lands, and I know that, in our absence you, the readers of THE VOTE and the members of the League, will work even harder than usual to fill up the temporary gaps. We, in our turn, hope to come back after our brief absence with good news of the movement and a fresh access of courage and strength to carry us forward.—I remain, yours in our Cause,

C. DESPARD.

THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY, June 6, 1913.

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, paragraph 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.

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

REBEL WOMEN.

The political situation in Great Britain is one of which the nation has little cause to be proud, and if properly understood would give statesmen and patriots reason for gravest uneasiness. The country is dominated by a group of men verbally and theoretically wedded to doctrines of democracy, but these doctrines are daily and hourly mocked at by the gentlemen who profess them. It has been accepted as a starting-point in the democratic race that men alone are "the people"; and that what serves their interests best must of necessity best serve the nation. And women, long deprived of education and development, had not been found in any great numbers to denounce the fallacy until quite recently; so that men, knowing their aversion to and incapacity for bloodshed, fail to recognise the serious consequences that may accrue from the revolt of a womanhood awakened to indignant dissatisfaction. The utter contempt into which the cynical betrayal of principle, where the weaker sex is concerned, has brought law and law-makers in the eyes of thoughtful, clear-sighted women, is having deep-seated effect already upon the entire nation.

The attempt to destroy the rights of free speech, a free press, public trial, by a Cabinet which includes John Burns, the champion of The People's Liberties, furnishes matter for profound reflection. In days not so long past, Mr. Burns stormed Trafalgar-square in defiance of Home Office and Commissioner of Police, smashing windows and destroying valuable property in the scuffle. He suffered imprisonment for the outbreak, and was defended by the present Prime Minister, then a brilliant lawyer, whose speeches in defence of the right of Nationalists, imprisoned for inciting to and committing crimes, to be treated as political, or first-class misdemeanants, earned him his first laurels in the House of Commons. To-day the same fight is being fought over the same ground, by women; their bitterest opponents being the men who took leading parts in the noble strife half a lifetime ago! Is it any wonder women are bitter, are taking to outbreaks of violence, can no longer find expression for their disgust and anger in peaceful, lawful methods? Would not the wonder be were it otherwise?

The hypocritical fury of the unthinking mob, fomented by a biassed Press and supported in an underhand fashion by the police, adds to the sum total of contempt felt by women for the men who rule. It is impossible to exaggerate the silliness of the comments and the untruthfulness of the accounts expressed and published on the militant protests of the Suffragists. One common error in judgment in regard to the reason for militancy is, that it is intended to frighten or to bully the Government or the public. This misunderstanding finds vent in solemn warnings against the futility of such a policy; and men and Ministers boldly brag that "Englishmen can't be bullied." Only one man in a hundred has sense to perceive that the object of militancy is to give a lesson in constitutional Govern-

ment. "Government rests in the last resort," say the anti-suffragists, "on force; and women cannot compete with men in physical force." "Good government rests in the first resort," say the Suffragists, "on the consent of the governed; and without that it is no longer constitutional government, but government by repression and methods of barbarism which civilised people boast of having left behind them." The ludicrous efforts of a Liberal Administration to repress without barbarism, and the utter failure of those efforts to control or dismay women who refuse to be governed, has shown that on willing consent and co-operation, and not on physical force, must law and order depend in these days.

The spectacle of a democratic Government in thrall to one old man who forces his colleagues to a negation of all their finest principles, is not an edifying one. It has not given the rebel women an added respect for male methods or authority. The spectacle of punishment incurred and constantly evaded, of violence increasing in character, and the public mind being gradually inured to law-breaking, is even less gratifying. Women hold it in their power to hit back at a community which scorns them, by methods which no man can wrest from them; and though they may wait in dumb patience through the ages they will in the end pay their reckoning to the uttermost farthing. A degenerate, undersized race is the price of womanhood condemned to bad physical conditions; a mean-spirited servile people, who will bend the head and submit to conquest, is the sure reward of mental and moral subjection for mothers. They cannot transmit what they do not know, and freedom denied to them is forfeit to the race. In Britain to-day those who have eyes to see will recognise that the seed in process of sowing for future harvest is contempt for all law and for those who manufacture it, if the women roused to angry revolt be left in continued and unjust subjection by the rulers they would have held in respect, had not all claim to respect been abandoned long ago.

C. NINA BOYLE.

THE MARCHERS' QUI VIVE CORPS.

On Wednesday, May 14, the Marchers' Qui Vive Corps, led by Mrs. de Fonblanque, carried into effect their proposed march from Horsham to Brighton and back. The weather proved most propitious throughout the four days, and all who were privileged to take part will carry with them delightful memories of the countryside in its freshest beauty, the companionship of kindred spirits, the hospitable kindness of friends on the route, and last, but not least, the gratifying knowledge that the seeds of our great cause have been sown, possibly in virgin soil, where we trust they may quicken, and in due time bear good fruit. The corps rallied in the Causeway, Horsham, and after speeches by Mrs. de Fonblanque, Mrs. Porch, and Mr. J. Prelooker, a resident of Crawley, the banner was raised, and the start made. Nine successful meetings were held during the four days—Newfield, Brighton, Steyning and Horsham, drawing large and interested audiences, the last named only suffering any interruption. An immense crowd assembled in the Carfax, Horsham, to greet us on our return, but a small party of youths, feeling strongly the necessity of preserving the dignity of budding manhood, endeavoured with the aid of bells, rattles and other juvenile toys to "keep woman in her place." The speakers at the various meetings included Mrs. de Fonblanque, the Rev. C. Boyle, Vicar of Portslade, Miss M. E. Byham, Mrs. Porch, Mrs. F. Kerr, Miss Jackson, and Miss A. N. Roff. Many thanks are due to Mrs. Fleming.

WHERE ARE THEY?

As I went into Charing Cross Station I passed two old ladies fresh from the country (as their brown cheeks, many petticoats, brown umbrellas and luncheon baskets protested) who were asking a policeman, "Where are the Suffragettes?" I paused to hear the bobby's reply. It was apt. "Well, I don't happen to see any just now, but I shouldn't be surprised if one sprang on me sudden. I shouldn't be surprised if you was Suffragettes."—*Mr. Gossip in "Daily Sketch."*

"I HOLD that the two crowning and most accursed sins of the society of this present day are the carelessness with which it regards the betrayal of women, and the brutality with which it suffers the neglect of children."—*John Ruskin, in "Time and Tide."*

ALICE MEYNELL, POET AND SUFFRAGIST.

Again and again, when I have heard of this or that distinguished woman joining the ranks of those who stand for justice to all women, my heart has thrilled with a twofold pride: first in the sex which could boast such genius and character in unison, then in the cause which could draw to itself such adherents. But seldom have I felt quite such a thrill of pride as when I heard that Alice Meynell (to my mind incomparably the greatest of living women poets, as well as an essayist of rare distinction) had walked in the great procession of Suffragists, forty thousand strong, and five miles long, which crowned the Coronation festivities with a pageant admittedly eclipsing them all. That pride was strengthened when I learnt that Mrs. Meynell was a Vice-President of the Women Writers' Suffrage League, and had appeared on the platform at the Hyde Park demonstration of July 14, 1912. Now, in the book* before me I find still greater matter for rejoicing, for here is the modern muse's most authentic sign and seal placed on practically the whole poetic output of a modern woman, alive to all the new needs, dignities, and responsibilities of her sex.

Years ago, I remember, a battered old anthology gave me my first glimpse of the poetry of Alice Meynell; in the noble sonnet called "Renouncement," which still seems to me one of the finest things she ever wrote. Born a Suffragist, the passion for my own sex in my very blood, I found in that one sonnet matter for indignant and exultant denial of the old taunt that "Pegasus has an insuperable objection to side-saddles." No male poet of our time has written a poem of its class to excel it—perhaps only Francis Thompson has written one to equal it—in delicate purity and passionate ardour blended together, like a lily grafted on to a rose. I believe it was included in the "Preludes" published in her maiden days; but not many of the "Later Poems" touch a loftier note, or strike it with a surer hand:

I may not think of thee; and, tired yet strong,
I shun the thought which lurks in all delight—
The thought of thee—and in the blue heaven's height,
And in the sweetest passage of a song.

* "The Collected Poems of Alice Meynell." (Burns and Oates, 5s. net.)

O, just beyond the fairest thoughts which throng
This breast, the thought of thee waits, hidden yet bright;
But it must never, never come in sight;
I must stop short of thee the whole day long.
But when sleep comes to close each difficult day,
When night gives pause to the long watch I keep,
And all my bonds I needs must loose apart,
Must doff my will as raiment laid away—
With the first dream that comes with the first sleep,
I run, I run, I am gathered to thy heart.

The sonnets here collected are, indeed, of a rarer excellence than any woman has attained since the "Sonnets from the Portuguese" flashed upon the world a glory "second only to Shakespeare's," to quote one

of America's most eminent verse-critics. "To a Daisy" deserved the praise lavished on it by Ruskin, who said of the rich significance of its climax—

Daisy mine, what will it be to look
From God's side even of such a simple thing?

"It is one of the finest things I have yet seen or felt in modern verse;" just as the late William Sharp (who, as "Fiona Macleod," was a particularly well qualified judge of the poetry of women) said of "Renouncement." "In its class I know of no nobler or more beautiful sonnet."

Rossetti, who knew it by heart—repeating it to me, added that it was one of the three finest sonnets ever written by women." So with the wonderful sonnets headed "Thoughts in

Separation," "A Poet of our Mood," and "To One Poem in a Silent Time," each as remarkable for depth and subtlety of thought as for grace of expression.

It is astonishing that work of this calibre, not only perfect in technical accomplishment, but distinguished equally by such high spiritual and intellectual qualities should have had to wait so long for recognition at the hands of the general public; though minds like Ruskin's, as we have seen, recognised and acclaimed it from the first. Coventry Patmore hailed the new woman-poet, in *The Fortnightly Review*, as "one of the very rarest products of nature and grace—a woman of genius" (one not so rare in our day, thanks largely to the Woman's Movement, which is broadening the minds of women everywhere!). But among the great mass of Press



Photo:

Sherril Schell.

THE LATEST PORTRAIT OF MRS. MEYNELL.

(By courtesy of the "Pall Mall Gazette.")

organs, the early poems, at first attracted very little notice; it was not till Mrs. Meynell had won fame as an essayist that her work as a poet began to be sought out and appraised at its true value. A writer in *The Woman at Home* recently told the story of one distinguished critic who, when the poems of the early volume were republished at a much later date, solemnly recorded his impression of the "rare development of Mrs. Meynell's genius"—the poems bearing witness to this "rare development" being identical with the early ones which he had snubbed!

Time, however, has changed all that; the modern Parnassus is proud to own its Muse, and to recognise in her contribution to her country's poetic literature that pure gold of the indubitable mint which no "light coin" of "pretty-pretty" verse can adequately counterfeit. Turning to the "Later Poems," issued twelve years ago, and included in the present collection, we find on the very first of them delightful evidence that the writer is pre-eminently a "woman's woman," in love with her own sex, not only in the abstract, but in the concrete. "The Shepherdess" is admittedly one of her masterpieces, and is, happily, short enough to quote in full:

She walks—the lady of my delight—
A shepherdess of sheep.
Her flocks are thoughts. She keeps them white,
She guards them from the steep;
She feeds them on the fragrant height,
And folds them in for sleep.
She roams maternal hills and bright,
Dark valleys safe and deep.
Into that tender breast at night
The chastest stars may peep.
She walks—the lady of my delight—
A shepherdess of sheep.
She holds her little thoughts in sight,
Though gay they run and leap.
She is so circumspect and right;
She has her soul to keep.
She walks—the lady of my delight—
A shepherdess of sheep.

Few of Mrs. Meynell's poems will appeal more to feminists of the highest type than this one: it is not only full of a delicate and delicious charm as poetry, but of that true love of woman for woman which holds in it the dawn of a new day. It shows a heart which can appreciate at their true value the highest, the essential qualities of the sex; its purity, its dignity, its strange, compelling charm in things spiritual and intellectual as well as physical. It will touch a responsive chord—and one of exceeding sweetness—in the heart of every woman who knows what the love of another woman can make of life.

Mrs. Meynell, it is interesting to recall, was "ever a writer," has written from her earliest years, as if literature were her "proper element"—as, indeed, it is. Her nearest and dearest share her intellectual distinction; her sister Elizabeth took to the pencil as naturally as she to the pen, and is now famous as Lady Butler, the painter of brilliant battle-pictures. Her husband's recent book, "Verses and Reverses," contains many charming references to the poet wife and her poetry; notably in one poem, in which the writer claims, through her, to be brother-in-law to Christina Rossetti! Her home in Granville-place is "close under the sky," in Mrs. Meynell's own words; with no intercepting floors or walls, but the roof only "between it and sun and stars." It is a home typical of the heart that builds its nest high, the poet's heart, which yearns always for free access to the heavenly places and unhindered communion with them. But those who have long known that heart and its artistic expression to be Mrs. Meynell's will marvel at her own modest judgment of her poetic gifts, as recorded by the interviewer above quoted. Objecting to be written of as a poet, she said: "It is in prose I have arrived. In poetry, I know, I am still far behind."

Those antiquated "Antis" who claim that woman does not "fulfil her function" unless she is wife and mother, should find a special interest in poems like "Parentage," "The Modern Mother," and the exquisite

little lyric to Wilfred Meynell (to whom, indeed, the whole collection is dedicated) which closes the book. Obviously, a woman who "fulfils her function" by being the most devoted of wives and mothers can fulfil, simultaneously, the poet's and the essayist's; can be the deep and subtle thinker, the delicate verse-artist, and the ardent Suffragist at once. But in the poems of motherhood there is a profoundly modern note, deeply significant for all who have ears to hear. Referring to the declaration of Augustus Cæsar that the unmarried citizens of Rome were, in some sort, "slayers of the people," this poet-mother declares the opposite to be true; "She who slays is she who bears, who bears"—a saying too often true, in a special sense, of maternity without its one fit preliminary of lofty mutual love, or its proper concomitant of thoughtful, faithful, prayerful preparation. And the thought is echoed in "The Modern Mother"; who owns herself "giver of life, death, peace, distress," and from her child desires "not so much thanks as forgiveness." Does not this express, at its finest, the new sense of maternal responsibility now visible and audible among women? Does it not also explain at least one reason for the growth of the army of modern Dianas, vowed to the vestal life till they can be sure of bringing into the world sons and daughters equally free? Else the "peace" may be mainly for the one sex, the "distress" for the other; instead of a crown and a burden duly halved by both.

The "Collected Poems" is a book which every Suffragist and every woman who loves her sex should read; and not only read, but buy; and not only buy, but keep. Delicately bound in blue and gold, and containing a fine preface portrait of the author, it is a book to delight the heart of a book-lover; and is, withal, the kind of book we should expect from the woman who could simultaneously uphold the rights of women, and inspire in a brother singer that immortal series of poems, "Love in Dian's Lap."

S. GERTRUDE FORD.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE AT WORK IN NEW ZEALAND.

Mrs. Bracher's illuminating and impartial survey of Woman Suffrage in New Zealand, which evoked enthusiastic and appreciative thanks from all who heard it at our "Wednesday" on May 28 at the Portman Rooms, is a welcome and timely addition to our special International number, and will be read with keen interest by Suffragists of all nations in Congress at Budapest next week. We only regret that considerations of space necessitate a summary, not a *verbatim* report, of a most valuable lecture.

After a brief historical outline Mrs. Bracher explained the political progress of New Zealand. There are over a million inhabitants, and 67,000 more men than women. The Constitution Act was passed by the Imperial Parliament in 1852; in 1879 adult male suffrage was granted; in 1893 women were enfranchised, forty one years after New Zealand's first Parliament met. The Parliament consists of two Houses—the House of Representatives, with eighty Members, including four Maoris, elected by Maori men and women, and a Legislative Council of thirty-nine Members, who are nominated by the Government for seven years. To a woman who has seen how, with little formality, and in airy comfort, women enter and listen to the debates in the New Zealand Parliament, the Women's Gallery at Westminster seems like the Black Hole of Calcutta, and also is symbolical of John Bull's attitude towards women. The Members of the present New Zealand Parliament include 27 farmers, 11 barristers or solicitors, 4 journalists, 1 doctor, 1 dentist, 6 merchants, 3 retail tradesmen, &c.; every male is qualified to be a Member of Parliament if he is not an undischarged bankrupt, a civil servant, or is not interested directly in a Government contract exceeding £50.

The following figures of the percentage of men and voters at three elections were given:—

1893	Men 69 per cent.	Women 85 per cent.
1896	" 75 "	" 76 "
1911	" 84 "	" 82 "

There are triennial elections; no plural voters, and strict election laws. Election day is a general half-holiday; all hotel bars and public-houses are closed; no banners, badges, or demonstrations are allowed, or acrosting voters on their way to the poll. Candidates' expenses must not exceed £200. A second ballot a week after the general election ensures the principle of absolute majority.

The Prohibition Question.

Mrs. Bracher dealt at some length with the dominant question of local and national prohibition. Each electoral district is a licensing district with the same electors as for the House of Representatives, and a poll is taken on the same day as the general election. There are now twelve no-license districts in New Zealand, and national Prohibition has been carried, but not by the necessary three-fifths majority to ensure it passing into law. Licenses can be restored at any election in a no-license district if passed by a three-fifths majority. Barmaids are registered. The women, said, Mrs. Bracher, have taken an active part in Temperance reform, but the fact that they have been powerfully supported by men even in the drastic national Prohibition proposal, shows that New Zealand men and women are anxious to ensure for the young Dominion a healthy race, untainted by alcohol. At least 38,000 men voted for national prohibition, which means that no alcohol can be imported into or manufactured in New Zealand. If carried, it will be an object lesson to the whole world.

Good Laws Passed.

Mrs. Bracher was able to enumerate a number of laws already passed in New Zealand which seem a counsel of perfection in Europe. In addition to Temperance reform, the Legitimation Act legitimises children born out of wedlock on the marriage of their parents on the birth being registered; more than 1,000 children have been legitimised. Marriage with deceased wife's sister was legalised in 1880, and with brother of deceased husband in 1901. The Widows' Pension Act of 1911 gives pensions per annum from £12 to £30, according to the number of legitimate children; it was amended in 1912 to include illegitimate children whose parents subsequently marry, and other cases such as husbands certified to be insane and incurable for twelve months. The Old-Age Pension Act, giving 10s. a week to women at sixty and men at sixty-five years of age, was passed in 1898. There is a National Provident Fund, to which contribution is voluntary, which is subsidised by Government to provide annuities in old age, and benefits for the protection of the family. There are excellent laws for the protection of infants; all homes for children have to be registered and inspected; all nurses and midwives are registered. The Plunket nurses do good work in the towns, and Government maternity homes are available for those who need them. The age of consent is sixteen. There are schools for the deaf, blind, feeble-minded, epileptic, delinquent, neglected, or indigent.

The system of State education is excellent; pupils may pass from the primary and secondary schools to the Universities, at which degrees are open to men and women on an absolute equality. There is superannuation for teachers.

The Factory Acts of 1908 ensure the best conditions in the world, said Mrs. Bracher, and have practically abolished sweating. There is an eight and a-quarter-hour day, forty-five hours a week, and restricted overtime is insisted upon for women, girls and boys, except in woollen mills. Shop assistants have a nine-hours' day, eleven hours one day in the week; a minimum wage of 5s. a week, with an annual increase of 3s. a week until £1 is reached; overtime is paid.

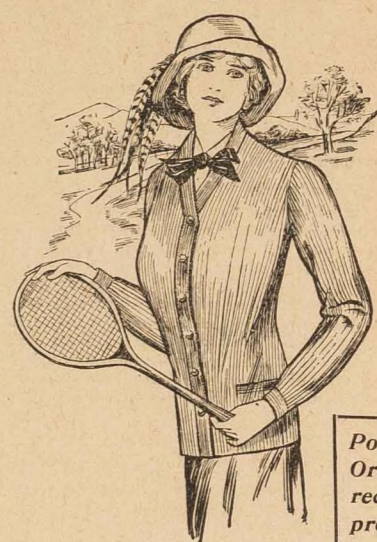
The Land Laws are good. There is much Crown Land in New Zealand, portions of which are sold or leased by ballot at intervals. Preference is given to the *landless*; widows with children, married women, with children, separated from their husbands and wives can also ballot for land, which includes town, village, suburban, and rural lands, up to 5,000 acres.

The Divorce Act of 1898 places persons of either sex practically on an equality for the dissolution of marriage: the same grounds for a decree apply to man and woman. The grounds for divorce were extended to include adultery on either side, wilful desertion during five years or more, habitual drunkenness for four years and upwards on the part of husband or wife; an Amending Act, 1908, included lunacy with confinement for seven years, recovery being unlikely.

Autocracy, Apathy, and Bad Laws.

Mrs. Bracher further explained that the evolution of a Liberal Government into a Government of Autocracy and Tyranny during twenty continuous years of office was largely due to the long period of uninterrupted power and to the apathy of the people who were busy with their industrial pursuits. When the people recognised the tyranny the Government was doomed and defeated at the last general election, 1911, not, however, before some serious mistakes had been made. Among them, the lecturer instanced the subsidising of the Press. New Zealand, compared with its size and population, has a remarkable number of newspapers; every little town, or even village, is desirous of making its presence known through its own organ, and there are even "newspaper planters," who plant newspapers in a growing community, get them established, and then sell. In 1912 there were 238 newspapers in New Zealand. The small papers are largely dependent on the Government for advertisements. The Government is the greatest employer of labour in the country: railways are all owned by the State, the postal service, civil service, and Crown Lands include a great number of employes. The Press was muzzled by the late Government, for advertisements were only given to political supporters. Government patronage is necessary for small country papers; some of the large town papers are strong enough to exist without its support. In 1910 the Law of Libel Amendment Act did away with juries, providing that a case could be heard before a magistrate, who had the power of

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inflicting a fine of £100, or imprisonment for three months. It took away the right of trial by jury—as old as *Magna Charta*—from printers, publishers, and journalists, and introduced censorship of political news by Ministers.

It was this autocratic "Liberal" Government which offered the "Dreadnought" to Great Britain—communicating confidentially with newspaper editors on the subject of grave danger to the Empire—without consulting Parliament; and then brought in the Defence Act without consulting the electors, and suppressed news about the revolt against conscription. With regard to the Defence Act, Mrs. Bracher explained that the fear of Japan and China has long existed, but the late Government declared the voluntary system insufficient, and brought in conscription, almost killing the volunteering spirit, and involving an organised passive resistance movement.

A Serious Menace to Women.

From the age of fourteen to twenty-five all men are required to serve, after which they are in the Reserve up to thirty. There are no distinctions or exemptions unless physically unfit; conscientious objectors are trained in non-combative branches, such as ambulance work, forestry, &c. Every boy of fourteen must register; the penalty for those who refuse is a fine of £5; they cannot be employed in Government Service, and, as originally passed, the *Act disfranchised them for life*. The outcry was so great that the disfranchisement is now for ten years. The results of compulsion have been 100 imprisonments and 4,000 prosecutions—equivalents for the United Kingdom, in proportion to population, would be 4,500 imprisonments, and 180,000 prosecutions. Imprisonment is the last resource of coercion. There is a very strong movement against the imprisonment of lads for refusal to obey the compulsory law. Boys may now be sent to military detention camps, which they dread more than prison. A father who had visited his son in Lyttelton gaol, wrote to the local *Times*:—"I wish every father and mother in New Zealand could have seen him as he came from his cell. Imagine your child, who has never been away from his home before, emerging from a criminal cell, branded with the broad arrow. In face of all the present day enlightenment the boy is told to pocket his conscience or be branded as a criminal in a criminal's cell." This is a serious aspect of the case, but its most serious menace to the women of the country is summed up in a resolution passed at a women's meeting, which ran as follows:—

That this meeting is of opinion that, whereas by the Defence Act the possession of civil and political rights depends upon a compulsory military oath for compulsory military service, a principle has been established which vitally affects the

status of women in New Zealand, being a direct menace to their civil and political enfranchisement.

It was pointed out that if the franchise depended upon the individual being a trained combatant, the civil rights of women were assailed. The military law over-rode the electoral law and struck at the root of free self-government.

The chief plank of the present Reform Party Government is to abolish the subsidising of the Press and the electorates. The women's vote is expected to help effectively in the resistance to the Defence Act, which in some districts is a dead letter, as the Government have not prosecuted all those who refuse to register. It is certain that the women apprehend the danger: if the political rights of young men are filched by resistance to military law, women have no assurance that their rights will be safe.

The Result of the Equal Vote.

Summing up the results of twelve years' observation of the working of the equal vote for men and women in New Zealand, Mrs. Bracher said that neither men nor women voters can elect a good Parliament unless good candidates are forthcoming; that a Parliament of average Colonial mentality passes many good laws, but makes mistakes when under the control of an autocratic Cabinet; that the force of public opinion compels Parliament to pass humanitarian legislation for women and children owing to the higher standard of social justice where the equal vote prevails, and the same force of public opinion will bring about the overthrow of an autocratic Cabinet; that a free and truthful Press is essential to the political education of men and women in the issues of the day.

Chivalry.

Taking Mr. Asquith's words in the debate last month on the Dickinson Bill about the decline of chivalry if women were enfranchised, Mrs. Bracher pointed to New Zealand to give them an absolute refutation. She reiterated the consideration for widows, the preference given to the landless in balloting for Crown Lands, equal laws for divorce, the legitimization of innocent children, equal degrees for women at the Universities, and especially the reciprocal dependence and reliance of the sexes, showing how men help in the ordinary work of the home. "Laws made by any Parliaments can only be human; there are spiritual laws, natural laws, and Parliament-made laws. If we all obeyed the spiritual law, 'Do unto others as ye would that they should do unto you,' sex antagonism would die out, racial hatred cease, and Parliaments be rendered unnecessary."

SURREPTITIOUS.

What Mr. Jellyboy couldn't stand was anything sudden. A shock, Mrs. Jellyboy said, no matter how slight, would upset him for the day, and if anyone didn't believe her they could listen to his language. Even the pop of a ginger-beer cork was enough to send the blood to his head; which was the reason why Miss Jellyboy, who liked her glass of stout, never could have it bottled.

Miss Jellyboy was not Mr. Jellyboy's daughter, but his niece. She was dependent upon Uncle, and in return for her dependence did the washing, all but the sheets, which Mrs. Jellyboy put out, because, as she said, she never had been a slave driver and never would be, please God!

Mrs. Jellyboy, with the aid and connivance of Miss Jellyboy, managed to guard her husband fairly successfully from the incidence of shocks, until the reign of law and order and public peace and private security was upset by the awful doings of the Suffragettes. For if there was one thing more than another noticeable in the Suffragettes, it was their suddenness. Never did you know what they might be up to. You might go to bed with no sign of anybody doing anything, and as like as not when you got up in the morning, you'd hear that a house had been burnt down, or even that there was something sticky in the letter-box at the corner. It was a daily dread to Mrs. and Miss Jellyboy to see Mr. Jellyboy take up the paper, for the veins in his head (which was all but bald) swelled that dreadful over the unexpectedness of the crimes therein described that, as they both agreed, you never knew but what he might be taken with a fit—or go off altogether.

Mrs. Jellyboy herself, looking at it all round, was not against the vote; but when it came to women behaving like men, she wasn't sure they were fit for it; and when it came to bombs—well, she nearly joined the Anti-society, but was stopped by the subscription. "For if you don't want a thing you haven't



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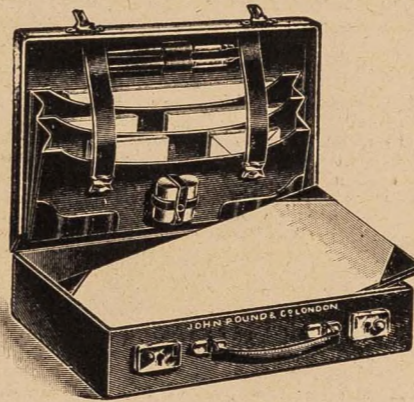
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81-84, LEADENHALL ST., E.C.

got," said Mrs. Jellyboy, "what's the good of paying not to have it?"

Now it was the custom of Mr. Jellyboy, when the month of May came round, to have a day in the country, accompanied always and only by Mrs. Jellyboy. Miss Jellyboy stayed at home and looked after the house, for women, said Uncle, when not married, don't want to go gadding about. So when, in this present year of 1913, the merry month arrived, it was announced by Mr. Jellyboy that on the 18th, being a Saturday, he and Mrs. Jellyboy would spend the day at Brighton. Living as they did, in the suburbs, it was necessary to take a suburban train to reach the London terminus, and as the Brighton train left early, Mr. and Mrs. Jellyboy started soon after breakfast. They set forth without any untoward happening—Mr. Jellyboy seraphically unruffled, Mrs. Jellyboy serene in mind, but somewhat compressed in body by a new dress tighter in skirt and waist than was convenient to a figure whose tendency was towards expansion.

As soon as they were gone, Miss Jellyboy washed up the breakfast things and then began the general tidying up which always took place on the last day of the week. The day was warm and Miss Jellyboy was weary. It seemed to her that a glass of stout would be very refreshing before she went on with the tidying up, in fact that she could not get on without it. But, oh! how she wished that it might be "up"! That stuff in the cask was as flat as—as flat as treacle. For two pins she would have gone to the grocer's round the corner, but she dared not leave the house. If anyone was to come while she was away, and Uncle was to find it out. . . . And at that very moment came a ring at the bell.

Miss Jellyboy hurried to the door, and who should be there but the washerwoman with the clean sheets for Uncle and Aunt's bed! That it was the washerwoman seemed to Miss Jellyboy the finger of Providence

pointing to bottled stout, for this same Mrs. Budkins had once or twice before served as the link between Miss Jellyboy and effervescent refreshment. Would Mrs. Budkins mind—might she be so bold as to ask.

Mrs. Budkins, anticipatory, said of course, and she'd be back in a jiffy. One bottle?

Yes—no, two. Mrs. Budkins must join Miss Jellyboy in a glass, and by the time the froth was off there wasn't more in a bottle than what one woman could manage easy.

Mrs. Budkins was gone and back again, with bottles carefully wrapped in newspaper to conceal them from the public eye, and she and Miss Jellyboy set to work upon the corks. And lo! when the wire was only half off, there was the bell again.

"Half a mo'" said Miss Jellyboy. "It can't be anybody but the cat's-meat."

But oh! It wasn't the cat's-meat. It was, of all surprising, extraordinary and unwelcome developments, Mr. and Mrs. Jellyboy. And Mr. Jellyboy had evidently had a shock. The shock was explained by Mrs. Jellyboy, while the washerwoman, realising that the chance of stout was over, fled by the back door. On arriving at the station, it appeared, there had been signs of disturbance all over the place; porters breathless, a distracted stationmaster, a body of police engaged on a search for a hairpin. All along of a bomb! The bomb was, or had been, in the booking-office, discovered by a passenger about to take a ticket; but it had been conveyed, before the arrival of the Jellyboys, in a pail of water by two policemen to a neighbouring chemist, while the remainder of the force assembled hunted for clues in the shape of pins for hair or hat. To be sure, the bomb turned out to be nothing more than a jampot filled with nails and soot; but jampot or no jampot, Mr. Jellyboy positively refused to travel a yard by train.

(Continued on next page.)

WILLIAM OWEN

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	Sale Price.
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WILLIAM OWEN, Ld., Westbourne Grove, W.

"If you'd seen your Uncle's face when he heard of it," said Mrs. Jellyboy, "you'd have said —"

She was interrupted by Mr. Jellyboy, who in a voice of thunder asked, "What's this?" It was the paper in which gentility and discretion had wrapped the stout, and of all papers in the world which should it be but THE VOTE! Miss Jellyboy's knees trembled under her like the first part of her name. "It's—it's—it's—" she stammered. And just then, from the kitchen, the door of which was open, came the sound of a tremendous pop.

Mr. Jellyboy, who had sunk back into a chair, bounded to his feet; Mrs. Jellyboy, who was standing by the table, went flop upon the sofa; Miss Jellyboy said "Oh my!" It was a bomb of course, nothing less to Mr. and Mrs. Jellyboy, and while Miss Jellyboy implored Uncle to be calm, Uncle continued to call loudly for the police.

"But—but—but," cried Miss Jellyboy, "it isn't, I assure you it isn't—"

And at that moment off went the second bottle.

This time Mr. Jellyboy leaped into the air, and descending again with force and rapidity just escaped, but grazed, the cat. The cat, like its master, couldn't bear anything sudden, and being roused from an enthralling dream of catching mice which tasted like fish, it out with its claws and fastened them in the nearest obstacle, which happened to be the leg of Mr. Jellyboy.

"It's got me! I'm blown up! My leg, oh my leg's off—my leg!"

Mrs. Jellyboy, on the sofa, tried to say her prayers, but could think of nothing but the Athanasian creed. Miss Jellyboy went into hysterics; but the awful thing was that instead of taking the tragic form of shrieking they took the appalling form of giggles. She sought to be solemn, she tried to explain, but she shook with merriment, and horrid laughter caught her in the throat.

"It wasn't a bomb, ha, ha, ha! it was a bottle, he, he! and it isn't the bottle, ho, ho, ho! it's the ca-a-a-at," roared Miss Jellyboy.

"The girl's mad," cried Mr. Jellyboy. "Go for the police, Selina. D'ye hear me? Go for the police!"

He advanced towards Miss Jellyboy and Miss Jellyboy fled—not into the street, but into the kitchen, whence presently she returned with two bottles and a cork (she couldn't find the other) and, tears now taking the place of laughter, with sobs and gasps, with heavings of bosom and wringing of hands, she explained how, the day being warm and she thirsty, she had pined for a drink that was "up"; and thinking Uncle too far off to be upset had arranged to have a glass of bottled stout surreptitious.

What Mr. Jellyboy said, his nouns, and above all his adjectives, are beyond any pen to describe, save that of the gentleman engaged by the *Stand Hard* newspaper to comment upon the doings of the Suffragettes. What Mrs. Jellyboy said when she finally realised the situation was that having had to do with three bombs in one morning, and finding that one was a jampot and the other two bottled stout, she didn't see that the women were so bad after all, and it seemed to her that Parliament was making a great fuss about nothing. "If they're as easily frightened as all that," said Mrs. Jellyboy, "better give the vote and be done with it."

"Besides, Aunt," said Miss Jellyboy, whose surreptitious refreshment had more than once been wrapped in degraded literature by a designing washerwoman, "women are like stout. When it's up and the wire's once cut, no power on earth, and I don't care who the man is, can keep the cork in." G. COLMORE.

TO THOSE WHO ARE ABROAD—OR ARE GOING.—If you wish to be relieved of anxiety and inconvenience with regard to tailor-made costumes write to Jordan Brothers, 139, North End, Croydon, sending your order with measurements. Whether it is in linen, silk, or woollen material, your coat and skirt will arrive ready to put on without further trouble.

"ASSORTED SINS."

LECTURE BY MRS. PERKINS GILMAN.

A most enthusiastic welcome was given to Mrs. Perkins Gilman on June 2, when she lectured at the Portman Rooms, under the auspices of the Women's Freedom League, on "Assorted Sins." Not only was every seat occupied, but many of the audience stood throughout the lecture, enthralled by the wisdom and the wit of our American visitor. She argued that our ethics still apply only to the individual, not to a number of individuals acting together; no standard of morality has been applied to collective sins. A striking instance given was the loss of the *General Slocum*, an American pleasure steamer in which many children were burned to death. The captain, after long inquiry, was blamed, but the inspectors who allowed an unfit steamer to be used and the makers of lifebuoys in which iron took the place of cork escaped scot-free. Quoting from her poems issued under the title, "In This Our World," Mrs. Gilman focussed her point in these words:

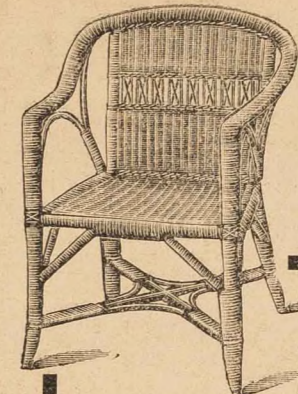
Your fraction of the sin
Of the office you are in
Is going to damn you after all.

Sins were frequently assorted, she said, according to class. Industry was preached, and preached even with violence, to the poor as a virtue belonging exclusively to them, while idleness was a heinous sin. To those, however, who "do not have to work," idleness—fine, clean, plump, graceful idleness—was a virtue. The difference of ethics between the sexes was strongly marked; chastity was demanded of woman, but no high code on other lines. Courage was expected from a man; but a woman who was a cross between a coward and a fool was hailed as "a true woman."

We have not yet sufficient knowledge, said Mrs. Gilman, to measure our system of ethics and apply it to the corporate life. Speaking of the subservience of the young to the old—illustrated from the animal world—she said there must be some standard above "what we are told." There are as many consciences as religions; an individual may obey the dictates of conscience and yet commit a grievous wrong—as, for instance, children sacrificed to the gods—but at the back of the instinct must be something that makes an action right: it must be measured in relation to human life.

Discussing our sins of to-day, some of which have no name, much less a commandment against them, she spoke of the public poisoning by the meat-packers of Chicago; of gambling, an inexcusable but little-condemned sin; of the power of the Press, which has no laws except that of libel—a power which, if true, is the greatest help, if false the greatest evil by lying to the public; of child labour, with special reference to conditions in the United States, where three million children are at work. Anything which injures children injures the world to come; it is treason against the race, she said. Of the sins on the social plane Mrs. Gilman said those of women might be described as sins of omission—harm resulting from what they left undone; those of men as sins of commission—harm resulting from what they did. The human race is deteriorating, and women have allowed the deterioration to go on; they have tried to save their own homes, not realising that their business is to clean the communal home. Man has monopolised the social conscience, but the conscience of women is now widening into social service. Mrs. Gilman told of the "Better Babies" crusade, but criticised the destruction of birds for women's personal adornment, maintaining that if women refused to buy the supply would not be forthcoming.

Nothing, however, that woman has done, she insisted, has injured the world so seriously as three evils for which men are responsible—war, intemperance, and prostitution. She condemned the practice of allowing girls to face the most important step in life without understanding, and the cast-iron distinction which kept one-half of the world in ignorance of what the other half did. Parents should be trained from boy-



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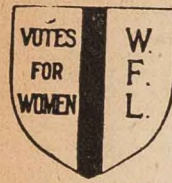
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Fri., June 6.—Open-Air Meeting, THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 7.45. Mrs. Tanner.

Sat., June 7.—Jumble Sale, TOLMER'S SQUARE INSTITUTE, Drummond-street, 3 p.m. Admission before 5 p.m., 2d.; after 5, free.

Sun., June 8.—HYDE PARK, noon. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nourse. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Andrews, Miss Hyde. BROCKWELL PARK, 3 p.m. Mrs. Tanner.

Mon., June 9.—CORNER OF BLENHEIM-CRESCENT AND PORTOBELLO-ROAD, Kensington, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Meeting at 117, WESTBOURNE-GROVE, Bayswater, W. (1st floor), by kind permission of Miss Langridge. *Speaker:* Mrs. Violet Tempest on "White and Brown Slavery in India." 8 p.m. Discussion. Admission free.

Tues., June 10.—CORNER OF BLACKBURN-ROAD, West End-lane (close by W. Hampstead Station), 8.15 p.m. Miss Normanton, B.A. CORNER OF ST. LUKE'S-ROAD, Clapham, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner.

Wed., June 11.—PORTMAN ROOMS, Baker-street (entrance in Dorset-street), Public Meeting. *Speakers:* Mrs. de Fonblanque, on "The Revelations of Woman's Suffrage," and others, 3.30. Herne Hill Branch Meeting, 161, CROXTED-ROAD, Dulwich, 8.15 p.m.

Thurs., June 12.—CROYDON. "At Home." The Lecture Room, Public Hall, Wellesley-road, 3.30 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Abadam on the White Slave Traffic. HARROW, "Rions," Northwick Park-road. Garden Meeting, 3.30 p.m. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard and Mr. Laurence Housman. HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Underwood.

Fri., June 13.—THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 7.45. *Speaker:* Miss Irene Miller. Meeting at 1, ROBERT-STREET, Adelphi, W.C., 8 p.m. Captain Carey will give a Health Food Talk. Admission free.

Sat., June 15.—HYDE PARK, noon. Mrs. Nevinson and Mrs. Tippett. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Muir. BROCKWELL PARK, 3 p.m. Miss Rogers and Mr. Morrison.

Tues., June 17.—CORNER OF BLACKBURN-ROAD, West End-lane (close by W. Hampstead Station). *Speaker:* Mrs. Tippett. CORNER OF ST. LUKE'S-ROAD, Clapham, 8 p.m. *Speaker:* Mr. Simpson.

Wed., June 18.—PORTMAN ROOMS, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. *Speakers:* J. Cameron Grant, on "The Correlation of Sex," and Miss Abram, D.Sc., F.R.Hist.S., on "Englishwomen in the Later Middle Ages."

Thurs., June 19.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Read.

Fri., June 20.—THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 7.45 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Normanton.

Sun., June 22.—HYDE PARK, noon. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mr. Mustard, Mr. Laurence Housman, and Miss E. Rogers. BROCKWELL PARK, 3 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Read. *Chair:* Miss Underwood. KINGSTON-ON-THAMES. *Speaker:* Miss Constance Andrews. Subject: "The Inner Meaning of the Women's Movement."

Mon., June 23.—CORNER OF BLENHEIM-CRESCENT AND PORTOBELLO-ROAD, Kensington, 8 p.m.

Tues., June 24.—CORNER OF ST. LUKE'S-ROAD, Clapham, 8 p.m. CORNER OF BLACKBURN-ROAD, West End-lane (close W. Hampstead Station), 8.15 p.m.

Wed., June 25.—PORTMAN ROOMS, Public Meeting. Rev. W. Moritz Weston on "The Economic Independence of Women in Relation to the Marriage Question," and others, 3.30.

Thurs., June 26.—CROYDON. "At Home," 3.15. HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. *Speaker:* Mrs. Tanner.

Fri., June 27.—THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 7.45 p.m. *Speaker:* Mr. Simpson.

Sun., June 29.—HYDE PARK, noon. Miss Boyle; Miss Holmes. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Mrs. Hyde.

Wed., July 2.—PORTMAN ROOMS, Public Meeting. Dr. Josiah Oldfield, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.L., on "Food, Fasting and Freedom," 3.30.

PROVINCES.

Sat., June 7.—CHESTER. Market-square, Open-air Meeting. Miss Anna Muir. 12 noon.

Mon., June 9.—GRAVESEND. Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Andrews.

Thurs., June 12.—CHESTER. Brown's Sale Rooms, John-street, 8 p.m.

Sat., June 21.—LIVERPOOL. 15, Chatsworth-avenue, Aintree, Cake and Candy Sale, 3-6 p.m.

SCOTLAND.

Wed., June 11.—EDINBURGH. King's Stables-road. Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss A. B. Jack and others.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Fri., June 6.—Women Sanitary Inspectors' League (Hon. Sec.: Miss L. M. O'Kell, 83, Sutherland-avenue, W.) Meeting, Emerson Club, 19, Buckingham-street, Strand, 8 p.m.

Tues., June 10.—Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, St. James's, 3.30 p.m. Miss Smyth-Piggott, "Why the Church Should Support the Women's Movement."

Wed., June 11.—The League of Justice, Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, St. James's. Mrs. Cavendish-Bentineck, Mrs. Emis Richmond, "The Policy of the League."

Note.—In view of the special aim of this issue of THE VOTE to place before International Suffragists in Congress at Budapest the legal position of British women, the position of the Woman Suffrage movement in this country, and the part taken by the Women's Freedom League in the movement, our readers will understand that some of our usual features, Branch Notes, &c., are held over till next week.—ED.

PUT OUT THE FIRE.—In the hot weather try putting out the fire, and living on savoury nut and other foods. If you wonder how it is to be done, pay a visit to W.F.L. Headquarters, and see how Mapleton's foods will help.

"ASSORTED SINS"—(Continued from p. 10 1.)
hood and girlhood to know that sin injures efficiency, and that the highest standard of efficiency is demanded in the service of humanity. The most important thing, she insisted, is the training of the social conscience instead of simple consideration of the immediate result of an action or conditions to an individual; an action is wrong when it injures society, right when it helps society. In lifting the ethics of our social life, we must exercise our human intelligence and enlarge our consciences.

Mrs. Despard presided, and in thanking Mrs. Perkins Gilman for a lecture which was full of new thoughts, emphasized the present awakening of women and the need for standing together. The vote of thanks was carried with great enthusiasm and a demand for "More!"

TAX RESISTANCE.

Tax Resistance protests are multiplying throughout the land, and signs are not wanting that the seedling planted by the Women's Freedom League is developing into a stalwart tree. This form of militancy appeals even to constitutionally-minded women; and the ramifications of tax resistance now reach far beyond the parent society and the other militant organisations, necessitating the expenditure of great energy on the part of the officials who work under the banner of John Hampden—the Women's Tax Resistance League.

Mrs. Despard is no longer even asked to pay her taxes; the Edinburgh Branch of the W.F.L. is in almost the same happy position; Mrs. Harvey has once more heroically barricaded Brackenhill against the King's officers, and Miss Anderson has again raised the flag of revolt in Woldingham. Dr. Knight, with praiseworthy regularity, refuses to pay her dog licence and other taxes in respect of a country residence; and these protests never fail to carry to some mind, hitherto heedless, a new sense of the unconstitutional position women are forced to occupy in a country that prides itself on being the home of constitutional Government.

Activities of the Tax Resistance League.

Last week we had five sales in different parts of the country. On Empire Day three Tax Resisters at West Drayton and two at Rotherfield, made their protest. Miss Raleigh, Miss Weir, and Miss Lees had a gold watch and jewellery sold on the village green, West Drayton; speakers at the protest meeting were Mrs. Kineton Parkes, Mrs. Hicks, and Miss Raleigh. Miss Koll and Miss Honor Morten, of Rotherfield, had a silver salver and gold ring sold from a wagonette in the village street; speakers at the protest meeting were Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and Mr. Reginald Pott. Miss Maud Roll presided. On May 26 Mrs. Sadd Brown gave an at home at her house when short speeches were made by the Hampstead Tax Resisters who were to have their goods sold on the following day, and by Mrs. Thompson Price, whose case is being further looked into by Somerset House. There was a very good attendance and many new members were gained for the League. On May 27, sales

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JUST WHAT IS WANTED.

Those of our members and readers who are interested in a meatless diet, through Captain Carey's convincing lecture or other experiences, will welcome the appearance of the new edition of Mr. Sidney H. Beard's "Guide Book to Natural, Hygienic, and Humane Diet" (Order of The Golden Age, 153, Brompton-road, London). It not only gives in clear and concise form the arguments in favour of such diet and its food values, but supplies a most useful variety of recipes to meet all needs. In addition to vegetarian soups there are dishes which are substitutes for meat and fish, savoury dishes, including omelettes and soufflés, directions as to gravies and sauces, also puddings, sweets, bread and cake recipes, invalid cooking, &c. Mrs. Walter Carey contributes practical menus for breakfast, lunch, and dinner which are designed to be a guide to beginners. The book finds a welcome everywhere, for it appeals to common-sense while advocating food reform. It may be obtained from the W.F.L. Literature Department, 2s.

An Object Lesson.

Good as the "Guide Book" is, a further valuable aid to successful meatless cooking is to visit, any day in the week, the Salon of Health Cookery, 180, Brompton-road, where the Principal, Miss Lucy Smith, gives practical lessons under the best possible conditions. One lesson awakens great interest, reveals surprising possibilities, and inspires the learner with some of the teacher's enthusiasm. Classes for cooks are arranged, and most dainty, as well as more solid, dishes are made to order and despatched to customers (carriage paid on orders of 5s. and upwards). Some lessons with Miss Smith give the beginner confidence, and enlarge the knowledge of the experienced. Luncheons may also be ordered at the salon, and the sceptical find their fears dispelled by the appetising meals that are provided.

How far that little salon throws its beams,
So shines its health lore in a naughty world.

Too Good to Miss.—Miss Alix Minnie Clark, Newtown, Montgomery Boroughs, has a very delicious Mayonnaise dressing, home-made, best ingredients only used, which she is selling in aid of Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund. Will friends and members kindly send orders at once? Price 9d. per pot, postage extra.

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Spirella Corset Parlour.




took place at Hampstead and at Croydon. Misses Collier, Mrs. Hartley, Mrs. Hicks, and Dr. Adeline Roberts had their goods sold at the Hampstead Drill Hall and at the protest meeting the speakers were Miss Hicks and Mrs. Nevinson. The goods of Miss Neligan and Miss James were sold at Messrs. King and Everall's Auction Rooms, Croydon; the protest meeting was addressed by Mrs. Kineton Parkes.

On May 30 the sale took place of a ring, the property of Mrs. Cecil Chapman, President of the New Constitutional Society, and wife of Mr. Cecil Chapman, the well-known magistrate, at Messrs. Roche and Roche's Auction Rooms, 68A, Battersea-raise. Mrs. Chapman made an excellent protest in the auction room, and afterwards presided at the protest meeting, when the speakers were Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Kineton Parkes, and Mrs. Teresa Gough.

Sequel to Hastings Riot.

As a result of the disgraceful scenes at Hastings on Wednesday, May 14, Mrs. Darent Harrison appealed to the magistrate on Tuesday. A large number of sympathisers were present and Mrs. Strickland, president of the local National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, spoke, and Mrs. Darent Harrison. The magistrate said the matter was not within his province and the Watch Committee must be referred to. We hope that the result may be adequate police protection when the resisters hold the postponed protest meeting.

THE END OF MY VISIT TO SCOTLAND.

After a quiet day with Mr. and Mrs. James Allan at Towermount, which refreshed me more than I can express, I went on to Dundee. Pleasant it was to meet the old friends and to go over the history of the Branch. A social evening had been arranged, and was well-attended not only by members of the League, but by many others. There was some good music. "The Awakening" was sung with great spirit. Miss Husband took the chair, and I spoke on the present political situation and the special methods and policy of the Women's Freedom League. I was heard with deep attention and interest, and new members were added to the Branch. It was a most delightful occasion.

C. DESPARD.

The Press secretary of the Dundee Branch sends a fuller account of the gathering, in which she lays stress on the enthusiastic welcome accorded to our President. She continues: "Referring to a former visit paid at an election time, Mrs. Despard said it was extraordinary that Dundee could not raise a representative of its own, but graciously accommodated the First Lord of the Admiralty with a seat in the House of Commons. A Dundee man would know better than any stranger the industrial conditions of the city, and especially how badly the women-workers are paid. Behind the Woman's Movement of to-day, Mrs. Despard pointed out, were two great forces—economic and spiritual. Old truths with new meanings were making themselves felt—equality, social, moral, and political for men and women without distinction."

IN MEMORIAM.

The Women's Freedom League has lost one of its most ardent supporters by the death of Mrs. Bastian, of Hadleigh. For many years she was President of the Hadleigh Branch, and its success mainly depended on her enthusiasm and devotion. Known by many, understood by few, she gave her life to the service of humanity, and her mission did not stop there, for she was passionately opposed to cruelty to animals in whatever form and for whatever object. Her sympathy was not a passive one—she was always up and doing, giving of her best both in time and money. For liberty of conscience, of action, and for the emancipation of women she fought with might and main. Her knowledge was extensive, and there were few subjects on which she could not express an opinion of weight. Like Paracelsus, she said, "I, too, will know," and she did know what the majority of people will never find out because they do not seek in the right way. We know that she is still working unhampered by the flesh, for, as Browning says, "Be sure they sleep not whom God needs." To her husband, relations, and friends, we extend our heartfelt sympathy.

"THE KEYSTONE OF HEALTH."

It is undoubtedly a fact that the mineral water treatment of rheumatism, gout, gouty eczema, gravel and other uric acid troubles, is most efficacious. You should therefore try "Vitaregis Aperient Water," which contains "Sulphur" in the most palatable form yet discovered, and is endorsed by the medical profession. It is used in the leading Hydros, and has the decided advantage of being quite odourless, as well as palatable, and is also a mild and effective Aperient. Half a tumblerful taken before breakfast, once or twice a week, will make you fit and keep you well. Excellent for the complexion. An ideal Aperient. Of all Chemists, or The Vitaregis Water Co., 39, Aldermanbury, E.C., price 1s. 3d. per large bottle.—[Advrt.]

Women's
Freedom
League.

PUBLIC MEETING WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11th, 3.30 p.m., at PORTMAN ROOMS, Baker St., W.

Speakers: Mrs. DE FONBLANQUE on "The Revelations of Woman Suffrage," and others.
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For insertion in the next week's issue, copy must be sent in by Monday morning to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

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MEETINGS.

LEAGUE OF JUSTICE.—A MEETING will be held at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, St. James's, S.W., on Wednesday, June 11, at 3.30. Speakers: Mrs. CAVENDISH-BENTINCK and Mrs. ENNIS RICHMOND. The Chair will be taken by Miss G. E. CHAPMAN. Come and bring a Friend!

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENT.

TOTTENHAM BRANCH.—A JUMBLE SALE will be held by the above Branch shortly, in aid of THE VOTE. Will members kindly send any articles to Mrs. HARBORD, 91, Mount Pleasant-road, Tottenham?