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THE VOTE.
February 13, 1914.
ONE PENNY.

NO SETTLEMENT WITHOUT WOMEN.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. IX. No. 225.

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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

Our Reply to the King's Speech.

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

The King's Speech.

From France, Albania, Turkey, Mesopotamia, India, to East Africa, the King's Speech whirls us as on a magic carpet, landing us eventually on "the differences between the two Houses," some home legislation, and "other purposes of social reform, if time permit." If anything could add to the irritation and indignation of women Suffragists it is the arrogant and insolent attitude of the Government in its legislative programme for the session just begun at Westminster. In the long and detailed list of Bills to be brought forward, supplementing the King's Speech declarations, which Mr. A. P. Nicholson, the new Parliamentary broom of *The Daily News*, supplied to his paper last Monday the dominant and vital question of the day—Woman Suffrage—is completely ignored except for a brief reference to Mr. Dickinson's expected reintroduction of the "Dickinson" Bill, and the hardy perennial which Sir W. Byles introduces every year—*pour passer le temps* surely, for nothing further happens to it except slaughter at the end of the session. Out of sight, however, is not out of mind, and the Government, which so conveniently ignores the women's claims and its own boasted principles, will find its sins coming home to roost.

Across the Atlantic recently the Kentucky House of Representatives summoned women to plead their cause before a full gathering of Members; no such wisdom marks the conduct of affairs at Westminster. To spend hours of Parliamentary time in discussing whether Sir Stuart Samuel is to pay some thousands of pounds for having broken the law by voting in Parliament when interested in a Government contract, or whether the Admiralty Arch is to remain in its present undignified surroundings, may seem supremely wise to men, but while women are clamouring unheeded for justice and recognition, it can only appear to them supremely puerile and futile.

We are grateful to our friends in Parliament for their personal efforts on our behalf, but we have had too much experience of the utter hopelessness of trusting to Private Members' Bills to think that such questions as divorce reform or "representation of the people," can reach the Statute Book by this risky way.

Changes and Chances.

Onlookers have been entertained to note how the Press, Tory and Liberal, has turned its blind eye to Lord Gladstone, and while the news of his resignation and the name of his successor appeared in one or two organs, others ignored it entirely. Then came preparatory explanations, and finally an acknowledgment of the fact as nothing new and not at all affected by recent happenings in South Africa, but not to take place yet. A pretty game; while *The Westminster Gazette* declared it to be preposterous to demand the recall of the Governor who had so nobly done his duty. The new sphere in which he may continue his noble work is for the Government—not for us—to choose. But he must have a successor, and "if and when" Mr. Sydney Buxton, in the new guise of a peer of the realm, goes to South Africa, his place and other resulting vacancies will have to be filled. Anything may happen in the game of Family Coach now going on—even to the upsetting of the coach itself.

Some Time in the Future.

Mr. Lloyd George has been repeating declarations of fidelity to the Suffrage Cause; he will never desert it, however tried! But public opinion must be won back again. Who "scared" it away when victory was within reach? Mr. Lloyd George himself, and he gloried in having torpedoed the Conciliation Bill. Now he tells women to wipe out his ill-deeds, and all the help he gives is "great confidence" for the next Parliament. Always some time in the future—never now; his prophecy remains still unfulfilled that women who doubted would "look foolish" when several millions were

enfranchised in 1912 under the promised Reform Bill. The comment of *The Christian Science Monitor*, an eminently sane American paper, on his hiding behind militancy, deserves quotation:—

It is to be hoped that his confession was merely a pious opinion, for whether female suffrage be right or wrong, it is by no means exhilarating to find a prominent politician with so little confidence in the vigour of the principles on which he has placed his trust. If such an obiter dictum means anything at all, it is the most complete justification of the accusation of breach of faith that any suffragette could desire, for it avows that the historic vote of the House in favour of the female suffrage Bill was at once indiscreet and insincere.

We recommend him to note the signs of male militancy everywhere, and how men, who have denounced women for breaking the law, are ready to involve the country in civil war rather than be governed without their consent. We assure him that for this or any Government to "give facilities" will not satisfy us; nothing but a Government measure will do that.

A New Fashion.

The Bishop of London is setting a fashion. The Lord Chief Justice and the Home Secretary have caught the infection and decided that it is just as well to see with their own eyes what prison means. Judges and lesser legal dignitaries are to follow, we understand: a brilliant idea—no doubt—we only wonder why they never thought of it before. We suggest however, that it would be more practical if these worthy gentlemen, intent on knowing what a sentence on a delinquent really means, were to serve a term of imprisonment without fear or favour instead of being satisfied with a glance round Wormwood Scrubs or Holloway. If forcible feeding were added to their experiences there would be more of truth than fiction heard about it in the House of Commons and outside.

The Danger of Ignorance.

Experienced educationalists are beginning to realise how necessary it is that the young of both sexes should have some knowledge of themselves and of life before they are thrown out helpless upon the labour market. Attention has been called to the case of Miss Outram, a woman teacher in a Derbyshire village who dared to forearm her elder girls before leaving school by forewarning them of the facts of life. Her boldness aroused so great an outcry among some of the parents that her resignation was demanded. How many of those irate men and women, we ask, were willing to fulfil their parental responsibilities and undertake the task which the woman teacher so bravely and carefully carried out from a sense of duty to the young lives she had trained and influenced, and whom she desired still further to protect from evil? We are glad to note that the authorities refused to dismiss the teacher, and that the correspondence which the publication of the facts has aroused is strongly in her favour. It is felt that wisdom lies in making the facts known in a proper way rather than leaving them to be discovered secretly from those who are totally unfitted to explain their true significance. Our Sheffield Branch has passed a resolution supporting Miss Outram.

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE PROTESTS:

IN ST. STEPHEN'S HALL.

IN WHITEHALL.

NO "LASTING SETTLEMENT" WITHOUT WOMEN. C. DESPARD.

THE COMING RACE. E. M. N. C.

INTERNATIONAL COLUMN: THE AWAKENING OF TURKISH WOMEN.

POLITICAL NEWS.

THE WOMAN PAYS.

INSURANCE ACT RESISTANCE AT HAMPSHIRE.

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FETE AT IPSWICH.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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MILITANT POLICY OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The question is frequently asked, What is the actual policy of the Women's Freedom League, and how do we stand with regard to militancy? It may be well at this critical moment to make our position clear.

We are militant, and in so far our methods differ from those of the constitutional Suffragists. We believe that there have been moments in the history of every nation when laws had to be broken in order to prove that they harked behind the conscience of the people. That the law which prevents woman from taking her place as a citizen is unjust and tyrannous we believe, and therefore we are in rebellion against a Government that refuses to give the nation an opportunity to redress that injustice. Therefore, we resist taxation, we refuse to submit to the Insurance Act, we make protests in public places against the orders of authorities; we do everything we can to emphasise our conviction that we are being treated as outlaws.

But we use no violence, and we do not, at any time or in any way, either damage private property or inflict suffering and loss on our fellow citizens.

This, briefly, is our policy. I wish also to make it perfectly clear that it is adopted by the whole of the League, and has not been imposed upon it by its leaders. Over and over again, in our yearly conferences, two resolutions have been passed by large majorities—that we ourselves shall abstain from violence, and that we shall not criticise those who follow other methods.

C. DESPARD.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE'S REPLY TO THE KING'S SPEECH.

The following reply of the Women's Freedom League to the King's Speech has been sent to the Press:—

"The Women's Freedom League views with the deepest indignation the omission of Women's Suffrage from the King's Speech, and the fact that women are totally ignored in its provisions, although the Prime Minister definitely promised an 'effective opportunity' for the House of Commons to deal with Women's Suffrage within the life of this Parliament—and this is its last session!

"The measures in regard to which there were differences between the two Houses last session are to be again submitted for consideration, but the difference existing then and now between the women and the Government which has been responsible for the imprisonment of nearly 2,000 women and for their brutal torture by Government officials, passes unnoticed.

"The desire is expressed that the goodwill and co-operation of men of all parties and classes may heal dissensions in Ireland, and lay the foundation of a lasting settlement. Since women's lives and interests in that country are equally affected with those of men, there cannot possibly be any satisfactory settlement of these dissensions until women are taken into the counsels of both nations.

"The Women's Freedom League notes that time will be found to deal with Imperial Naturalisation, but not with the citizenship of British women, and yet the latter will be expected to pay their share of taxation which the Estimates will require.

"The Women's Freedom League indignantly re-

pudiates the right of men's representatives only to settle such questions which so intimately concern women as the Housing of the People, National Education, the Care of the Young, and the administration of justice. Delays in the administration of justice are admittedly bad, but the gross inequalities existing between men and women under the law and its administration are still more grievous, and will persist until women have a direct voice in the making and the administration of the law.

"Finally, the Women's Freedom League expresses its firm intention to continue hostile to the Government and in open defiance to the law and its administration, until a Government measure for the Enfranchisement of Women is definitely promised."

"ON PARADE."

The opening of Parliament found us as usual in Parliament-square, carrying posters with pictures and mottoes designed to touch the conscience of the erring Members. This year the W.F.L. joined with the Suffrage Atelier, and the following societies: New Constitutional Society, Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association, Actresses' Franchise League, Forward Cymric Union, Men's Political Union, Northern Men's Federation, Votes for Women Fellowship, League of Spiritual Militancy, Women's Tax Resistance League, Church League, Jewish League, Free Church Catholic Women. The result was a triumph. Sixty-eight paraders left Robert-street, and were afterwards joined by the religious Leagues and the W.S.P.U. Great crowds were assembled in Whitehall and outside the Houses of Parliament, and we hope that this most effective parade convinced them that women do want votes; those who do not were conspicuous by their absence.

PROTEST IN ST. STEPHEN'S HALL.

On Tuesday afternoon a deputation from the Women's Freedom League was waiting to see Mr. McKenna and Mr. Hector Morrison, Member for South Hackney, in connection with the case of *Rex v. Wetherall*, when a cause for protest suddenly arose. After remaining quietly in St. Stephen's Hall for more than an hour the inspector of police approached Miss Sidley, one of the deputation, and requested her to leave the House as her name was on the Black List. She refused, whereupon two constables were called who removed her with great violence. Miss Andrews rose and made a protest against their action. Before it was realised what was happening she got in quite a little speech, reminding those present that the House of Commons was the property of the women as well as of the men of the nation. She was then removed; but took the opportunity as she went down the hall to tell the men who were waiting there that women were now working for their political freedom as men had worked in the past, and that it was their duty to come forward and help.

Mrs. Pratt also made a protest, and was removed.

DEMONSTRATION IN WHITEHALL.

During Tuesday evening the Women's Freedom League made a demonstration in Whitehall to protest against the omission of Woman Suffrage from the King's Speech. Bells were set ringing and crowds began to gather. Soon after speaking had begun at the corner of Downing-street, the police, who were evidently "nervous" as to what Suffragists would do, appeared in force. As our members refused to move on, seven were arrested, taken to Cannon-row, and bailed out by Mrs. Despard.

On Wednesday morning the following were charged at Bow-street:—Mrs. Tanner, Miss Trott, Miss Sidley, Miss Kate Smith, Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Hull, and Miss Jane Smith.

Miss Sidley and Mrs. Ball were bound over in two sureties to keep the peace for six months. They refused, and were sentenced to four days. The others were bound over; on refusing, they were detained at the magistrate's pleasure.

INSURANCE-TAX PROSECUTION.

The Women's Freedom League in pursuit of its policy of refusal to contribute to the national expenditure while denied a voice in determining how the money shall be spent, and of refusal to obey laws imposed upon women without their consent, pays no insurance for its employees.

About June, 1913, inspectors of the Insurance Commission, having, as they said, received an anonymous postcard that maids at an address at Hampstead were not insured, called at the house, and discovered that neither Dr. Knight, the employer, nor the maids had taken any notice of the passage of the Insurance Act. After this, inspectors called innumerable times. In September the inspector by means of misrepresentations induced the maids to sign a paper saying that their insurance had not been paid for four weeks in September. Many further visits followed.

Dr. Knight was summoned to appear at the Hampstead Police Station, Haverstock-hill, at 10 a.m., on February 11.

As Dr. Knight was unable to attend, Miss F. A. Underwood, by courtesy of the magistrate, appeared on her behalf. She complained of the carelessness shown in calling Dr. Knight "Knights," and declared that the inspector who threatened one of the maids with a fine if she refused information ought to be put in the dock. She asked why, when the maids said they could not see what benefit the Insurance Act was to servants, the inspector could only assure them that there was the maternity benefit?

The fine imposed was £10 for each maid, the costs amounted to 12s., and Dr. Knight was also ordered to pay the arrears.

BY-ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

Headquarters is taking part in the South Bucks by-election and our Edinburgh Branch in that of Leith Burghs. In both places a vigorous anti-Government policy is being pursued, and it is confidently hoped that the Government candidates will be defeated. In view of the fact that women are yet again totally ignored in what passes for the King's Speech, we are making an urgent appeal to electors to show their indignation against the Government who framed that Speech by voting against that Government's nominee. We earnestly appeal also to our readers to assist us immediately by pouring donations for these by-elections into the funds of the Women's Freedom League. These donations will be gratefully acknowledged by our honorary treasurer, Dr. Knight.

HOMERTON CAMPAIGN.

Our campaign in Homerton came to an end with the opening of Parliament, and our efforts will now be concentrated on Westminster. The special feature of the work in Homerton was the sympathy and interest aroused. Most successful open-air meetings were held at which large crowds gave our speakers a most attentive hearing, and the shop focussed interest on the shameful case of the protection of criminals. We thank very warmly all who helped in the campaign: Mrs. Ball, who gave such devoted service in the shop; Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Hyde and Miss Boyle who did such good work outside.

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ORGANISERS' FUND: APPEAL FOR £500.

With the certainty of a General Election at no distant date, we have organised a general weekly levy upon all members, so that we shall have a sum of money ready for our election expenses.

Now is the time to prepare the ground in the constituencies, and make the special work of the election campaigns effective.

Our organisers are hard at work ploughing up the land, but there is much work to be done. More organisers we must have, and for this £500 must be forthcoming in the next few weeks.

Many thanks to all the kind friends who have already contributed to this fund. Further donations will be gratefully received.

E. KNIGHT.
F. A. UNDERWOOD.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

London Meetings.—Next Wednesday afternoon at Caxton Hall, the Rev. Moritz Weston, D.D., and Miss Nina Boyle will be our principal speakers, the subject chosen by the former being: "Christianity and Mary Magdalene." Dr. Weston has more than once spoken from the platform of the Women's Freedom League, and on each occasion has caused a good deal of controversy, both among his audience and in the Press, so this should ensure a good attendance next Wednesday. The chair will be taken at 3.30. The following week we shall have the pleasure of listening to an address by Mrs. Cunningham, who will speak on "The Race Bearers and the Falling Birth-rate in France." Mrs. Cunningham has recently returned from a long visit to France, so we may hope to hear some account also of French Suffragists and their work. Monday evening, February 16, Miss Hodge, who has rendered such splendid service to Suffragists through her recent articles in THE VOTE, will open a discussion at this office on "The General Effect of the Woman's Vote in Australia and New Zealand." The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock by Miss Alice Rollinson. Admission is free.

Summer Campaigns.—Shortly after Easter we propose to use Mrs. Despard's caravan to make a Suffrage tour along the Great North Road from London to Scotland. Volunteers and funds are specially asked for this campaign, which we are convinced will arouse the greatest interest, not only among Suffragists of all societies, but generally amongst the inhabitants of the villages and towns through which it will pass. We shall try to make "Votes for Women" the chief topic of discussion all along the route from London to Edinburgh. We have also decided to run campaigns on the Lancashire and Welsh coasts, and we should be delighted to hear from all friends who are likely to spend their summer holidays in those districts.

Conference.—Our Annual Conference will take place on Saturday, March 28, at Caxton Hall. We shall have many delegates from long distances, and Mrs. Tritton will be most grateful to hear from any friends in London who can offer hospitality to them.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

AT GLASGOW.

The splendid meeting arranged by our Glasgow Branch at the McLellan Galleries on February 10 became a King's Speech meeting, and vigorous speeches were made by Miss Boyle, Canon Hannay (George A. Birmingham) protesting against the broken promises of the Government with regard to Woman Suffrage, and the contemptuous way in which they ignore their duty of doing justice to women as citizens.

QUALITY AND VALUE.

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 the obtain the utmost value for their money.

POLITICAL NEWS.**Mr. Lloyd George's "Great Confidence for the Next Parliament."**

During his visit to Glasgow on February 4 Mr. Lloyd George received a deputation from the Scottish Women's Liberal Federation. "I am still," he said, "a friend of Woman Suffrage, in spite of every effort made by friends, who pretend to be still greater friends, to drive me into the opposite camp. You have asked me what advice I can, as a friend, give to you and to others who are working hard to assist the principles to achieve the victory which we all desire to see attained.

"Well, I have only one advice to give, and that is that you should endeavour to bring back public opinion. All those who have been in public life for a long time know how easily public opinion is scared away from any cause to which it is not accustomed. It was beginning undoubtedly to come, and come very rapidly, round your way. There is no doubt of that. I do not know of any cause that was making greater progress, but during the last few years, more especially—I should say the last three years particularly—public opinion has undoubtedly been frightened into the opposite direction. When women advocate the cause of Woman Suffrage, the public are rather apt to think that somehow or other they are all associated in pressing forward their principles by the same sort of means. The first thing you have got to do is that those who are guilty of these tactics are repudiated by the vast majority of those who advocate Woman Suffrage. I think once you get that fixed firmly in the public mind, from that day the cause will again make very rapid progress."

"I am afraid," added Mr. Lloyd George, "the position, as far as this Parliament is concerned, is quite hopeless. We started with a majority, but the majority has been converted into a minority by means which are known to us all. We have got to get the majority back, and to win over public opinion is the only method of obtaining that purpose."

"I hope, with very great confidence, that in the course of the next Parliament you will be able to achieve a real victory for your cause. . . . When any Bill comes before Parliament I shall always associate myself with it and those who are working for it. I hope the time is not far distant when we can congratulate ourselves that you have carried through a Bill for the enfranchisement of the women of the United Kingdom."

"If you can bring back a majority," the Chancellor added, in a reference to the next Parliament, "I have no doubt at all that the Government would have to assist to give facilities for a measure to get through the House of Commons."

Vancouver Women Protest.

The Central Committee of the Pioneer Political Equality League, the Equal Franchise Association, and the British Columbia Woman Suffrage League have sent the following communication to Mr. Asquith as Prime Minister:—

Dear Sir,—At a meeting of the Central Committee of the various Woman Suffrage organisations of this province, held on the 30th ult., the following resolution was unanimously passed:—

"Whereas forcible feeding of Suffragists practised in Holloway Jail, London, by the British Government is cruel, barbarous and prejudicial to the health and life of those so treated,

"Whereas the so-called 'Cat and Mouse Act' is prejudicial to health and life and is a revival of mediæval torture, be it therefore

"Resolved that in the name of humanity we protest against the continuance of both these practices, and be it further

"Resolved that a copy of these resolutions be sent to the Woman's Social and Political Union, to the Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, M.P., and to the daily Press of London."

Victoria Court, Vancouver, B.C., January 5, 1914.

The East London Federation now Independent of the W.S.P.U.

The East London Federation of the Women's Social and Political Union has now become the East London Federation of Suffragettes, under the direction of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, and independent of the W.S.P.U. With regard to rumours current on "the split," Miss Christabel Pankhurst has made the following statement to the Press:—

"Kindly allow me to correct the fanciful statements which in the shape of alleged interviews with myself and otherwise have appeared in the Press concerning the relations between Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and the Women's Social and Political Union.

"The true position is that since the Women's Social and Political Union does not exist for the mere purpose of propaganda, but is a fighting organisation, it must have only one policy, one programme, and one command. The W.S.P.U. policy and programme are framed, and the word of command is given by Mrs. Pankhurst and myself. From the very beginning of the militant movement this has been the case. Consequently, those who wish to give an independent lead, or to carry out

either a programme or a policy which differ from those laid down by the W.S.P.U., must necessarily have an independent organisation of their own.

"The announcement recently made that Miss Sylvia Pankhurst's organisation is independent of, and distinct from, the W.S.P.U., marks no change in the situation, because her work has for a long time past been conducted on independent lines. In order to avoid confusion in the minds of the public, it has now been decided to make a public and formal statement of the existing fact.

"Suggestions that the policy of the W.S.P.U. has been or is to be changed are entirely untrue, and are products of journalistic imagination. The W.S.P.U. policy will continue to be as strong as ever, though the proviso that human life shall be respected will, as it has been in the past, be observed."

"It may be noted with regard to the "one command" that soon after the W.S.P.U. was formed a constitution was drawn up and agreed to by members, but its provisions were never carried out.—[Ed.]

Women on Paris Voters' Registers.

The Times Paris correspondent on February 5 stated: "The revision of the voters' lists, which has just concluded in Paris, has been accompanied by demonstrations by members of the Woman Suffrage Society. A delegate was sent into each of the twenty *arrondissements* to claim her registration as a voter. In only three *arrondissements* did these efforts meet with success. Dr. Edward-Pillet, the first woman to be inscribed on the Paris list this year, declares that she was sympathetically received by the officials as well as by the male voters present. The registration is quite legal, she says, and no article in the Code forbids it. 'We are subject to the same obligations as men, and we pay the business tax. We do not perform military service, but have not those who have been exempted the right to vote?' In the ninth *arrondissement* Mme. Maria Verone, a well-known woman barrister, vainly claimed registration as a voter.

"The *arrondissements* that have refused to inscribe the women will be proceeded against before the Juge de Paix. Mme. Verone states that the League has decided also to test the legality of the action of the Prefect of the Seine, who is said to have sent instructions to the mayors of the *arrondissements* to refuse to register the women."

Support for Woman Suffrage.

The Aberdeen Town Council, after receiving a deputation from the Aberdeen Association for Woman Suffrage, asking for representation at the Albert Hall Meeting, London, on February 14, for which Miss Louisa Lumsden, LL.D., was the principal speaker, agreed by nineteen votes to eleven to support the movement.

TO SERVE THE CHILDREN.

We call the special attention of our readers to the notice on page 267 of two dramatic performances to be given at the Cripplegate Institute on March 3 and 24 by the M.C.H. (Moore, Chick and Harvey) Dramatic Society in aid of Mrs. Despard's School Clinic in Nine Elms. The work so skilfully and quietly carried on at the Clinic on behalf of the children must appeal to everyone, and our readers already know how excellent are the dramatic performances in which Mrs. Harvey, Miss Chick, and Miss Moore are associated. Give practical help by booking the dates and sending at once for tickets.

AN INTERESTING AND IMPORTANT BOOK.—Mr. Heinemann has in preparation a book entitled "Prisons and Prisoners: Some Personal Experiences by Lady Constance Lytton and Jane Warton, Spinster." The work is not intended as propaganda for the Suffragist movement—though the author has a good deal to say on the subject of forcible feeding—but as a dispassionate statement of the facts concerning our prisons which have come under Lady Constance Lytton's notice.



Poster Parading at Portsmouth by Members of the Women's Freedom League.

THE COMING RACE.* THE NEED FOR THE EQUAL CO-OPERATION OF MAN AND WOMAN.

Should a stranger from another planet, owning another dominance to that of this earth, visit this terraqueous globe, he might, with reason, object that its inhabitants were spending an inordinate proportion of their time and energies in the processes of securing, preparing and assimilating food. He might further urge that the results of these efforts were scarcely commensurate with the energies expended. That we live is a witness to the fact that we have eaten. We cannot say that there is evidence that the inhabitants of the planet have altogether either lived or eaten well. In addition to the permanently incapacitated, we have always with us armies of devitalised adults—working men and women who are unable to do a day's work because they are persistently under-nourished. A smaller proportion suffer from the ills due to over-feeding. There is no doubt that both over-feeding and under-feeding result in a loss of physical, mental and moral vigour, while persistent starvation is one of the most fruitful causes of chronic alcoholism, with its attendant disease and degeneration.

In answer to the cosmic visitor, the inhabitants of this planet might justly point out that the distribution of wealth, and the conditions under which the poor live, render it impossible for a certain number of the disinherited to obtain a sufficient sustenance for themselves and their children. He might also urge that, in addition to these difficulties, which are subject to variation and alteration, the human body is a most imperfect instrument for registering and estimating the relative value of food products. For instance, an excess of carbo-hydrates and deficiency of protein do not always register their results in an infallible and recognisable manner. Other causes, such as bad conditions of life and housing, want of proper clothing, or worry, may give results so near that they may easily be confused. The method of Nature, as Huxley once told us, is not an explanation and a slap in the face to follow. It is the slap in the face without any explanation. It is for the person who is slapped to find out the reason why.

The bulky volume, issued by the National Food Reform Association, containing the Report of a Conference on Diet, Cookery and Hygiene, which took place at the Guildhall last June, may be considered as an attempt to bring thought to bear on an important department of life, in which, though instinct has been distrusted, reason cannot be said to have dominated. The book is a storehouse of facts, statistics and general information. Being a verbatim Report, it is perhaps ungrateful to complain of the inevitable repetitions of speakers who have prepared their papers independently. Many of these papers are excellent, though the discussions which followed them do not appear, in many

* "Rearing an Imperial Race." Containing a full Report of the Second Guildhall School Conference on Diet, Cookery and Hygiene, with Diaries; Special Reports from H.M. Ambassadors Abroad; Articles on Children's Food Requirements, Clothing, &c. Edited by Charles E. Hecht, M.A. Published by The St. Catherine Press.

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House Station.

instances, to have been of an elucidating character. The subjects dealt with include School Meals, the Condition of Elementary School Children in various parts of the country, the Teaching of Domestic Science and Personal Hygiene, Open Air Schools, Reformatory and Poor Law Institutions, &c. Part II, containing sample dietaries, is particularly interesting—a section devoted to the admirable work of the Bradford Education Committee, a pioneer authority in School Feeding. Equally interesting are the accounts which have been sent from Paris and other Continental centres.

It will be only possible to touch on a few points in the mass of matter contained in the volume before us. The feeding of school children will doubtless be considered the subject of paramount importance. It is interesting to find that there is but little criticism of the principles of feeding the hungry child. Many questions arise as to what children are to be fed, and what should be the "standard of necessitousness," when they should be fed, and what they should be fed upon, how the meals should be prepared and how served, &c. The inexpediency of the present system is clearly shown. In the majority of cases, the Act is construed to permit of the feeding of the child whose parents are proved, to the satisfaction of the authorities, to be in receipt of insufficient wages to allow them to procure adequate nourishment for their families. This clearly leaves out of the reckoning a class of children who are insufficiently or improperly fed owing to other reasons, such as neglect, industrial or other occupations of their mothers, and, in rural districts, distance from the school. The rigid economy of food and fuel, which is necessary in working-class homes, makes it difficult to cook more than one hot meal a day, and this is frequently prepared in time for the return of the man of the family from his daily work.

The ideal system is that in vogue in Paris, where all children, whose parents wish them to do so, can partake of the mid-day school dinner, which consists of three courses, at a cost of under twopence a child. The majority of the parents prefer to pay for their children's meals, but the cost is remitted where they are unable to do so. Checks are given to all the children who dine at the schools, and they do not know which of their school-fellows are being paid for by their parents and which by the Municipality. This is a great improvement on the London procedure where, in some schools, the order is given "Dinner Children stand out." Those who are conscious of the sensitiveness of children will recognise how sore a wound this is to their self-respect, and how readily they will assure their mothers that they do not like the school dinners. The difference of the manner in which the meal is served in London and in Paris is characteristic of the two nations. We have accepted our responsibilities grudgingly, and we carry them out in the same spirit. In Paris, the meals are served with care and attention, and good manners are insisted upon. Although the centres in London differ very widely, many of the meals provided could be best described as "gobbles." "The children rush to the seats, bolt their food as quickly as possible, and then rush out. At another place, the dinner is eaten in a perfect pandemonium of noise. Nine charwomen of rather low type attend to about 470 children."† All this surely betokens a survival of the old spirit which inspired the belief that anything was good enough for the poor, and that "children do not want much." E. M. N. C.

(To be continued.)

IT IS AN ARTISTIC PLEASURE to pay a visit to Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's in Wigmore-street. Their reputations stand high as silk mercers, but the beautiful brocades, satins, velvets, and tissues on gold and silver ground now being shown are among the most beautiful that have ever been made. Messrs. Debenham and Freebody are good supporters of THE VOTE, and well repay the support of our readers.

† Annual Report of Chief Medical Officer, Board of Education, 1911. C.D. 6530.



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THE VOTE.

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Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, February 13, 1914.

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

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.1

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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NO "LASTING SETTLEMENT" WITHOUT WOMEN.

Long ago a tired and cynical magistrate, faced by a problem which he could not solve with satisfaction to his conscience and safety to himself, asked a memorable question. "What is Truth?" said Pilate, as he shook off the responsibility that had been thrust upon him. "I am innocent; see ye to it!"

We cannot wonder at his perplexity. Evidence of an amazingly conflicting kind had been brought before him. How could he—a person of a different order—be expected to decide between the witnesses? As governor of a disturbed province, it seemed to him, on the whole, the safer and more expedient course to let those who knew the people (the elders and the priests) have their own way. So he pronounced judgment.

The cry of the perplexed Roman governor, echoing down through the ages: "What, after all, is Truth? and how are we to find it?" has been made the excuse for all sorts of moral obliquity. Those who look on at the political game—the drama that has just been rung up at Westminster—may hear it every day. Not only, "What is Truth?" but "Given Truth, why should we trouble ourselves about it?" "Not on Truth, but on fiction the brittle structure of modern society is built up. Truth is and ever has been an iconoclast; society is too fond of its idols to have them lightly broken; and because Truth is obscured, responsibility goes to the wall. Take our glorious Constitution—"glorious" heaven save the mark! It seems rather, in its profound artificialities, to have been so constructed as to allow honour and the sense of responsibility no place in the code of those who administer it. We have at the top of the edifice the Sovereign, who year after year, with pomp and ceremony, calls his faithful Commons before him, tells them what he proposes to do at home and abroad, and lays his commands upon them. Fiction—pure fiction!

If the Speech is a mere futility, like that which has just been read, or if by any extraordinary chance it should foreshadow some original or far-reaching measure, the King is not responsible. He is the mouthpiece of his Ministers.

Then, they are responsible? By no manner of means. "We cannot go further than the people wish us to go," they will tell us. "We are the servants of the House of Commons, and that represents the country." Fiction again!

The Cabinet does not serve Parliament, nor does that represent the people.

Take the King's Speech—written, as we know, not by the King himself, but by the leaders of those whom the electorate, not the people, have put into power; and we think the general verdict must be, not only that it fails lamentably to answer to the wishes of the people, but that it is a most irresponsible document. The situation is grave in the extreme. The Cabinet must know it. Hundreds of thousands of women are in revolt. They deeply resent the manner in which, session after session, their grievances are unnoticed, their just demands are ignored. Of this, no lightest

word! On the other hand, legislation promised to reform the administration of justice, to deal with juvenile offenders, to improve national education and the housing of rural and city workers—matters which deeply concern women and children. Yet no appeal to women themselves!

Men as well as women are profoundly disturbed. No day passes which does not bring us news of industrial war. It is no exaggeration to say that within the ranks of the industrial army—without which the nation could not live—there is fierce discontent. Yet of these—save the few words on housing—there is no mention.

Again, while his Majesty assures us complacently that he, through his Ministers, is doing everything in his power to heal the wounds that a cruel war has inflicted upon distant countries, he merely touches upon the threatened war at home. He is optimistic, of course. That is always one of the elements in irresponsibility. "In a matter which—unless handled now with foresight, judgment, and in the spirit of mutual concession—threatens grave future difficulties it is my most earnest wish that the goodwill and co-operation of men of all parties and creeds may heal dissensions and lay the foundations of a lasting settlement." Men, we shall notice, must co-operate. Let us once more try to impress upon our legislators, as we have been doing in many ways during the last few years, that there never can be any satisfactory or lasting settlement without the co-operation of the women.

What the present Session will bring it is impossible to forecast. There are rumours abroad that extraordinary action may be taken by the Opposition. Lawlessness in Ulster and lawlessness in the House of Commons are openly threatened. In the meantime, bland orations on the part of those in power, and dark hints of impending peril on the part of those who desire power, are the order of the day.

In Great Britain we have our astute and fluent Chancellor of the Exchequer assuring us, in picturesque language, that, with the proposed, and still, to the uninitiated, somewhat vague land measures, a rosy dawn is breaking. "The chariot of retribution is drawing nigh. I can see the day of the resurrection, the dawn of the resurrection of the oppressed in all lands already gilding the hill-tops."

We have Mr. Redmond complaining of the Unionist party. "They can trust us to build up the Empire; but in the management of our own poor local affairs they will not trust us with the right of self-government." Might not women, who are the true empire-builders—the makers of men—take these words out of the lips of the Irish leader?—And Mr. Redmond, too, is optimistic. He feels convinced that the path upon which they have entered will lead to a contented Ireland and an united Empire.

On the other hand, we have a writer in *The Saturday Review* solemnly warning his countrymen that unless Ulster is excluded from the provisions of the Home Rule Bill—unless it is allowed to steer its own course—civil war is imminent. The significant words in which this warning is couched might well be used by all in our movement:—"What we claim is a fundamental right—the sacred right of insurrection. Unless people are prepared to argue that no man—(or woman)—enjoys the right to protect his—(or her)—liberties, and that he—(or she)—must bow like an oriental slave to whatever the 'legal' despot says, this right of resistance must be admitted."

Between these extremely divergent utterances, who is to disentangle the truth?

Turn to South Africa. We have before us letters and speeches written and given by the strike leaders before martial law had been proclaimed: from Mr. Cresswell a pathetic letter, deprecating violence, and stating that he and the others who had the confidence of the workers were doing their utmost to preserve order; from Poutsuma, the most notorious of those whom General Smuts designates as "scoundrels," a speech urging his hearers to do nothing that should not be done by civilized

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN. WOMAN IN TURKEY: "THEY ARE WAKING—IN THE EAST."

"A decision of very great interest and importance has just been made by the Ottoman Government. It has been announced in Constantinople that women are to be admitted to the university. Special courses of lectures will be delivered for the benefit of women students on such subjects as hygiene, gynaecology, domestic economy, and the position of women. The step so taken will undoubtedly have made a profound impression among Turkish Moslems, and will be discussed, as the news spreads, throughout the Mohammedan world."

Thus *The Daily Telegraph*, on February 9, began a leading article on "Woman in Turkey," and in emphasising some of the outstanding points in Miss Grace Ellison's illuminating articles, "Life in the Harem," which have been appearing in the *Telegraph* during the past fortnight, the British anti-Suffragist organ waxes eloquent on the splendid service Turkish women—urged by Turkish men to break through misguided convention—are rendering their country, and its extension in the future. Says the *Telegraph* of the feminist movement in Turkey:—

"The mere fact that the movement has its weekly organ in the Turkish Press is, in the circumstances, a thing so remarkable as to stamp the cause with the signs of ultimate triumph. It has, further, the peculiar advantage among feminist movements that it is vehemently and actively supported by the men in charge of the country's destiny, as Miss Ellison has shown. The Turkish reformers have grasped firmly the truth that the free participation of women in the national life of a people is a moral asset of immeasurable value, and the Government's recent action testifies to their conviction. Turkish ladies, indeed, have already, since the revolution of five years ago saw the birth of the new Turkey, given signal proofs of the value of a womanhood which looks beyond the doors of the home. They have shown a patriotism as ardent and real as the most emancipated of their sex elsewhere can feel."

Miss Ellison's articles reveal an earnestness of purpose and extraordinary vitality which move the writer and her readers to expressions of delighted amazement. Her experiences at one of the Friday afternoon feminist meetings, held usually every week, moved her to write: "It is as if, when I think of my home far away yonder, and my fellow-workers, I am standing on my head." Her description of the meeting is graphic:—

The hall in which the feminist meeting was held was the large lecture hall of the university, lent by the men. Men were the stewards, and all four speakers were men—strange and chivalrous it seemed to her to see the men conducting the women's meeting. Long before the meeting began the big hall was crowded with veiled women. The first speaker was a poet, making a strong appeal to the women to save the Fatherland. The next explained to women the value of their sex from a scientific point of view and showed the impossibility of one sex raising itself without the aid of the other. "Was there ever, I wonder, in my country," asks Miss Ellison, "a feminist meeting conducted only by men and where the men urged the women to rebel and strike for freedom?" The third speaker told some home-truths about the grinding and hideous poverty of London's East End, and said that a nation which permitted such conditions had no right to criticize the Turks. "We must learn to help ourselves." From the fourth speaker came a remarkable appeal.

Miss Ellison writes of it thus: "The speaker had no notes, but he spoke with eloquence and a passion I have never yet seen in a man pleading a cause not his own. His subject was 'The veil and the subjection of women.' He condemned it from a moral point of view and he condemned it from a physical point of view and showed that in spite of an error which has been accepted now for centuries, veiling is against the teaching of the Koran. 'Our Prophet,' said he, 'considered ignorance a sin. What has been done to help you out of ignorance? A woman, according to the Koran, may preach in a mosque, and may exercise any profession she chooses. How have you taken advantage of these privileges?' Then he blamed the women. 'Can you not feel your bondage?' he asked. 'Who can give you freedom unless you yourselves ask for freedom? What right have the interpreters to bind and fetter and degrade women? I am not against religion; it would be disastrous for Turkey to-day if there were no religion; but what I demand and what every thinking man and woman should demand to-day is a reformed religion, a seeking after the truth—the real meaning of the Prophet's Teaching. Can you not see for yourselves that although it is our duty to protect our women it is detrimental to their very best interests to keep them shielded from every gust of wind? What use are these hot-house flowers in the garden of life? Virtue cannot be bought by slavery."

men, only to cease work. When we compare this with the impassioned language used by the Dutch Minister in his efforts to persuade his fellow-citizens that but for martial law and the subsequent deportation of the strike leaders their lives and goods would have been in deadly peril, we experience a moral shock. Whom are we to believe? How has it all come about? For lying—conscious lying—both at home and abroad there must be.

We cannot but suspect that much of the present difficulty—the conflict between man and woman, between class and class, between employer and employed, between race and race, that conflict which, if it is not faced seriously, will assume appalling forms—arises from the fact that we have in the "seats of the mighty" the timid-lawyer-mind. Our politicians refuse to see that which is impending. Instead of facing abuses and grappling with them, they temporize.

"Male humanity is what it is. We cannot help that poor women, poor workers! Have patience! Wait! We will do what we can for you. See how lofty our aspirations are!"

So the old rhyme runs. Peace! Peace! when there is no peace; and so the moral sense of the community has been weakened.

One of the most remarkable features in the resurrection of women and in the awakening of industry is that, here and there, we are beginning to pierce through the veil of disguise—beginning to see that Truth is with neither faction: that, indeed, we shall have no true presentation of life until we return to what one of the old alchemical masters has called "our primal sanity."

C. DESPARD.

"THE WOMAN PAYS."

The following letter, from Miss Eva Gore-Booth, which appeared on February 2 in *The Manchester Guardian*, clearly shows the injustice done to the pit-brow women who, at the demand of men, have lost their employment. Miss Gore-Booth writes:—

"May I protest against the so-called 'amicable settlement' by which thirty poor women have lost their work at the New Sharlston Colliery, for no fault of their own except, of course, the initial one of having been born women? The strong point of the Miners' Association has been successful. To the manager the whole matter appears a 'storm in a teacup'; the pit-brow women have been deprived of their work, and everything is smooth again. The men did not even want the work, the management dwelt on the difficulty of getting boys to do it. There seems to have been no reason behind the violent action of the miners' official, beside the wanton bitterness of sex prejudice.

"It seems almost like living a double political life, with a foot in both camps, that these men should go straight from this cruel attack on the liberty of women to earn their living, to speak in London, not at an Anti-suffrage meeting, but at an Albert Hall meeting organised to support the women's new claim to live their life in their own way—political, industrial, and social. For surely this is the real meaning of the Women's Suffrage Movement. And in the light of this larger interpretation, the President of the Miners' Federation can surely be only regarded by Women Suffragists as an opponent.—Yours, &c.,

EVA GORE-BOOTH (National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society).

The *Iron and Coal Trades Review*, commenting on the dismissal of the girls, says:—

"The New Sharlston Colliery Company employed some nineteen girls on their screens about a fortnight ago, but the Yorkshire Miners' Association protested so strongly that their employment has ceased already. We are not, generally speaking, in favour of the employment of girls and women at all merely as an economical substitute for male labour, but since girls and women are already employed in many industries where the conditions of work are much less conducive to good health and they are worse paid, there is really no sound reason why they should not be employed on pit banks. The work is not at all laborious; the workers are in fresh air; and anyone who has had an opportunity of comparing the appearance of the Lancashire 'pit lassies' with, say, those who work in the cotton mills of the County Palatine will readily agree that the open-air workers, if dirtier, are unquestionably happier and more robust. We really cannot see that there is any honest and fair-minded objection to the employment of girls on pit banks.

"The opposition of the Miners' Association is not one of consideration for their members' daughters. It is simply a question of unskilled *versus* what they are pleased to call skilled labour, though everyone knows that a girl of fifteen is usually much more alert than a boy of the same age.

Are you going to cut out your children's tongues to prevent their telling lies?"

A Feminist Mass Meeting.

A remarkable mass meeting of the various women's societies took place in Constantinople on December 30—the anniversary of the foundation of the Ottoman Empire, and a red letter day for Turkish feminists. A member from each society gave an account of the year's work. Women speaking at a meeting, sacrificing an anonymous role and openly demanding their equal rights with men to serve the Fatherland! A Turkish Feminist Government—strange, indeed it sounds to Western ears—but, writes Miss Ellison: "There are so many questions which should be entirely settled by women and never taken to the Imperial Parliament at all. The Turkish Government has been wiser than we in this matter, for it recognises that education and the housing of the poor are questions which should be left as much as possible in the women's hands." She tells how the patriotic appeal at the meeting moved the vast audience—many women, not poor women, but keenly interested in the welfare of their country—brought their babies because they could not come without them. And what a response to the call for sacrifice! One woman gave her hair—regarded as a special charm—and therefore an extraordinary sacrifice. She remained anonymous, but a sum of £80 for the Turkish Navy was raised by the sale of her hair. Others gave jewels, embroideries, beautiful textiles, and from one broken-hearted mother a sum equivalent to £5 "in memory of my five sons fallen for the Fatherland."

Practical Work and Service.

But the movement means more than meetings. Of Halide-Hanoum, the most talented of Turkish women writers to-day, and who is seriously ill through overwork, Miss Ellison writes: "Halide-Hanoum is the mother of two children. Up to a month ago she taught history, pedagogy, and literature at the Normal School for Girls. She has written five or six volumes of importance, as well as articles on special subjects, and frequently she addresses the Friday afternoon meetings. But in all her work, she tells me, she has been encouraged by the opposite sex, and no one ever questions whether, since she gives so much time to public work, her children and home are neglected."

Of another who spent a year in England and studied at Bedford College, she says: "I have seen her when her week-day lessons are ended spending her Friday (the Turkish day of rest) giving lessons to the women of the poor classes. Some of these women are between fifty and sixty, some are younger, but it is one of the most pathetic sights I have yet seen here to see these old ladies spelling out their words like little children, and with bent backs applying themselves to the task of learning to write, as if their very existence depended on it."

To help the victims of the war Turkish women have entered into a self-denial ordinance: no more Paris dresses, no more jewels or luxuries till the poor, starving widows and children are fed. They have opened a shop in Stamboul where only Turkish goods are sold, and a weaving and embroidery establishment to find work for women and food for the hungry. Of the great work of educating women and children Miss Ellison has much to tell. Her articles have been translated into the Turkish paper *Tanin*, and, says *The Daily Telegraph*, "we believe they have given no inconsiderable stimulus to the cause of enlightenment and social reform."

"VOTE" POSTER PARADE.

THE VOTE Poster Parade left Headquarters on Friday evening, February 6, and took the route round the theatre queues. Although not so well attended as last time the paraders were very enthusiastic. Our thanks are heartily tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Bell and Mr. Whittington for their very practical help. The best way to show our appreciation of the help of our good friends is to rally to the Brigade in large numbers.

Come in force to the next Rally of THE VOTE Brigade on Friday, February 13, at Headquarters, at 7.30 p.m. It will be the first meeting since Mrs. Despard's return, and we rely on all members to give her a hearty welcome by their presence.

THE VOTE Brigade spent a pleasant afternoon with Mrs. Despard at the "At Home" last Thursday, many sellers being present. A cordial invitation is given to all to attend these "At Homes." Owing to the illness of Mrs. Walter Carey, Mrs. Bell received THE VOTE sellers, but we are glad to know that Mrs. Carey has now recovered and will welcome them as usual on Thursdays at 5 p.m.

P. LEAHY.

VOTE APPEAL: £100 WANTED.

Dear Fellow-Members and Readers.—I desire to thank very heartily all who have contributed to our Fund for the enlargement of THE VOTE. Their help, with the kind and cordial letters we have received, testifying to the pleasure they take in our paper, have greatly encouraged us. But we must make a further appeal. The Fund is not yet large enough to enable us permanently to increase our columns. We remind those of our readers who may be able to help us, that the moment is critical in the history of the Woman's Movement. The League is increasing; we are making new Branches and new members; work of all sorts is pressing upon us; never was there a time when a really representative paper was so urgently needed as it is now. Therefore I beg you to help us. I regard THE VOTE as the life-blood of the League.

I hope others will follow the example of those who have helped us, and so lighten our task.—Yours sincerely,

C. DESPARD.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

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WOMEN WRITERS' SUFFRAGE LEAGUE. Great Success of Authors' Reading.

A reception to famous authors organised by the Women Writers' Suffrage League was held at Caxton Hall on February 3, the hostesses being Lady Blake, Mrs. Gerald Paget, Miss Lena Ashwell was in the chair, and as usual delighted the audience by her earnest and witty speech on behalf of Woman Suffrage. Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, president of the Women Writers' Suffrage League, was unavoidably absent through sudden illness, but sent a dozen copies of her books with quotations and signatures in her own writing, and also contributions of cakes and scones made by herself. Lady Aberconway kindly took her place.

Amongst the well-known writers who delighted the audience with short readings from their own works were Mr. W. L. George, reading from "The Making of an Englishman"; Miss Evelyn Sharp from "Rebel Woman"; Miss Elizabeth Robins from "The Open Question"; Mr. Henry W. Nevinson from "The Daily Round, the Common Task"; Miss S. Macnaughten from "The Fortunes of Christina Macnab"; and Mrs. St. Clair Stobart from "War and Woman." Mr. Israel Zangwill, after a very witty speech, read a short scene from his new play, *The Melting Pot*. Mrs. Margaret Wood recited "A Poem of Motherhood," and Miss Bessie Hatton read for Miss Beatrice Harraden—whose absence owing to illness was keenly regretted—from "Ships that Pass in the Night." Madame Lydia Yavorska was detained at a rehearsal and came in late to apologise and convey her good wishes. Miss Cicely Hamilton, in an able speech, made an appeal for new members. During the proceedings the greatest enthusiasm prevailed. Autograph books by famous writers were on sale and in great demand, and the remaining copies were sold by auction at the conclusion of the programme. Letters of regret for absence by Beatrice Harraden, Olive Schreiner, George Birmingham, E. V. Lucas, and many others were read by the hon. secretary, Mrs. Romanó-James, and the League stands to gain substantially in members and money by the splendid success of the afternoon.

A WOMAN GOVERNOR OF THE IRISH NATIONAL GALLERY.—Miss Sarah Purser has been appointed by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to be a Governor and Guardian of the National Gallery of Ireland.

GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD FETE AT IPSWICH.

Our "Green, White and Gold" Fete, held on February 2, in the St. Lawrence Hall, was a great success, and received excellent notices in the Press. A good audience gathered for Miss Boyle's opening speech in the afternoon, and special interest was roused by her account of the original Suffragettes of 1840, also her comments on the present situation. A short sketch, *The Lunatic*, followed; it was played by Mrs. Hossack, Mrs. Edwards—who so kindly and efficiently helped us, and Dr. Heath, to all of whom our cordial thanks are given for the great amusement the piece afforded. At intervals monologues and recitations were given by Mrs. Edwards and Mrs. Hossack, and various side-shows did a brisk trade. Home-made marmalade, sweets, and other dainties sold well, besides literature and THE VOTE. One of the principal features was a very representative loan collection from the National Anti-Sweating League, which our members explained to eager inquirers.

In the evening the hall was well filled, and everyone enjoyed the excellent speeches. Mrs. Tippett dealt with the movement from the race point of view, showing the humbug of so-called Suffragist militancy which means to stop the sweating of women and children. Miss Boyle drew a parallel between our fight and the South African War, which was fought to gain votes for British men. The chair was taken by Mrs. Hossack, and an appeal for members and funds was made by Miss Trott, from which a practical result is certain. A good collection was taken. All the members rose to the occasion splendidly, and we feel confident that the Fete will have enhanced our social value in the district, besides proving up to the hilt that we are out with a stern purpose.

Our Thursday meeting dealt with business regarding the Fete, and we are glad to record a good balance on the right side.

CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS."

With Mrs. Nott Bower and Miss Boyle as speakers, and Mrs. Mustard in the chair, no wonder a good audience was attracted to the Caxton Hall on February 4. Mrs. Nott Bower's long experience as a Poor Law Guardian and in Rescue work gave great weight to her opinion as to "Reforms urgently needed in Criminal Law." She spoke at length on the latest Act dealing with Criminal Law and showed how, despite the loud protestations of the care of men legislators for women, its provisions so often allow the real criminals to escape and its administration leaves so much to be desired. She laid stress on the fact of the uselessness of the measure, so long as the occupiers of houses of ill-fame cannot be touched. Commercialised vice, she said, tends to remove from houses to flats from which girls can never escape and where it is much more difficult to prove a breach of the law. In the first draft of the Bill, there was a clause dealing with male solicitation, but it disappeared and, pressed for the reason, Mr. Lee admitted that there was a fear of false accusations being made by suffragettes against anti-Suffrage members of Parliament. She urged the need for raising the age of consent, declaring it monstrous that a man could escape penalty for assaulting a girl of fourteen, by declaring that he thought she was sixteen. Few know, added Mrs. Bower, how many assaults on girls take place; in her work, nine cases every fortnight had come before them for the last five years. Many cases never came into court, because there was no corroboratory evidence. Insisting on the need for drastic amendment of the affiliation law in justice to women, she declared that women police officers were an absolute necessity, and that it was quite illegal to turn women out of courts of law. Miss Boyle spoke on the political situation and the work of the League in view of the coming Parliamentary Session.

W.F.L. AT WELL HALL.

On February 3 Mrs. Tanner spoke on "The Women's Movement" at a meeting of the Labour Reform Council at Well Hall. The audience was most enthusiastic, and showed its appreciation in long and loud applause at the end of her speech, which lasted over an hour. Mrs. Tanner touched on the Homerton case, and much indignation was expressed at the gross miscarriage of justice. Every available copy of the pamphlet "The Protection of Criminals" was sold.

IT IS GRATIFYING TO NOTE that our readers realise the importance of patronising the firms who advertise in our columns, as much depends upon the revenue derived from our advertisers. Messrs. Achille Serre, Ltd., the cleaners and dyers have advertised in THE VOTE regularly for the last two years, and have proved that they can be of great service. Their system of cleaning is so thorough and careful that they make a soiled dress or blouse look almost as good as new again, though ordinary dry-cleaning only removes dirt and spots caused by grease. Cleaning in the "Achille Serre Way" includes the removal of practically all kinds of stains. The "refinishing" process restores the daintiness of a frock, and all coats and skirts are skilfully "tailor-pressed" after cleaning or dyeing. Reliable advice can be obtained from any of their branch offices, and all cleaning orders are executed in four days, unless requiring exceptional treatment. Readers of THE VOTE will receive a list of these branches together with price lists and other information on application to Messrs. Serre's Head Office, Hackney Wick, London. When writing or giving orders to Achille Serre, Ltd., please mention THE VOTE.

In Aid of the "NINE ELMS" School Clinic.

The M. C. H. Dramatic Society

On TUESDAY, MARCH 3, at 8 p.m.,

Will Present a TRIPLE BILL:

1. "A MAKER OF DREAMS," by OLIPHANT DOWN
2. "COURAGE," a Dutch Play, by KATE HARVEY
3. "MADAME MARCELE," by CONSTANCE MAUD.

AND ON

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, at 3 p.m.,

They will also Present

LONGFELLOW'S "HIAWATHA"

(Dramatised by KATE HARVEY.)

At the Cripplegate Institute, Golden Lane, Barbican, E.C.

TICKETS (Numbered and Reserved), price 3s., 2s., 1s. (5s. reserved but unnumbered at 6d. each), may be obtained from Miss SHAFTE, 5, Market-square, Bromley, Kent. (Telephone: Bromley 1793.) Special Terms for Schools. A free ticket will be given with every ten tickets bought.

The Cripplegate Institute is 2 minutes' walk from Aldersgate Station (Metropolitan Railway). Motor-buses Nos. 21, 43, 60, 76, 98, and 4 pass near.

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO SUFFRAGISTS—AND OTHERS.

The first public performance of *The Better Half*, the new Suffrage play in four acts by Alison Garland, will be given at a special *matinée* at the Royal Court Theatre, Sloane-square, London, S.W., on Saturday, February 14, at 2.30 p.m. Doors open at 2 p.m. The cast will include the following distinguished players in their original parts:—Miss Victoria Addison, Miss Margaret Damer, Mrs. Nell du Maurier, Miss Lucie Milner, Miss Janette Steer, Mr. H. K. Ayliff, Mr. Henry Hargreaves, Mr. Frank Macrae, Mr. Miles Maleson, Captain Vasey. The play will be produced under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League by Mr. Jackson Wilcox. Stage manager, Miss Irene Ross. Business manager, Miss Inez Bensusan. Usual prices. Tickets may be obtained from the Actresses' Franchise League, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi; the manager, Typewriting Office, 165-7, Edgware-road, W.; or from the box-office, Court Theatre, Sloane-square, S.W.

"THE DAUGHTERS OF ISHMAEL."—The Pioneer Players will give on Sunday, March 1, at the King's Hall, Covent-garden, a dramatised version by D'Este Scott of Reginald Wright Kauffman's famous novel, "Daughters of Ishmael." The play is not licensed, therefore only members of the Pioneer Players will be admitted to the performance. It deals with the social evil, and is a moving picture of a terrible phase of life. Well-known players will appear, among them Miss Marjorie Patterson, Miss Cathleen Nesbitt, Miss Jane Comfort, Miss Margaret Drew, Miss Eleanor Elder, Miss Olive Noble, Miss Eileen Orby, Miss Janette Steer, Miss Vivienne Whitaker, Mr. W. Garrett Hollick, Mr. Moffat Johnstone, Mr. Raymond Lauzerte, Mr. Owen Roughwood. For the remaining half of the season the subscription is reduced so that one stall for three performances costs £1 1s.; one balcony stall, 12s. 6d.; and one balcony seat, 10s. 6d. For any further particulars apply to the Hon. Secretary, The Pioneer Players, 139, Long-acre.

FORCIBLE FEEDING PROTEST: PERSONAL TESTIMONY.

The Committee for the Repeal of the "Cat and Mouse" Act (Sir Edward Busk, hon. secretary) has arranged for a public meeting to be held in the Excelsior Hall, Bothal-green, Tuesday, February 17, at 8 p.m., to protest against the torture of men and women in His Majesty's prisons by the method of forcible feeding adopted there, and to demand the immediate repeal of the Act. The Rev. C. Baumgarten will be in the chair; the speakers will include Mrs. Walker, Miss Amy Hicks, M.A., Dr. Frank Moxon, and Mr. John Scurr. Political prisoners who have been forcibly fed in prison will attend and give evidence on oath as to the treatment which they received.

MESSRS. PETER ROBINSON'S WHITE SALE offers unusual opportunities to all who wish to get excellent value for their money, and as it lasts only two weeks, from February 16 to 28, VOTE readers will do well to lose no time in paying a visit to the well-known establishment, and supporting a firm which has long supported us by advertising in our pages. Underclothing, corsets, blouses, dressing-gowns, sports coats, laces, caps, as well as household linen and curtains, are to be found in almost bewildering and irresistible variety. Readers in the country should write for a catalogue, from which they will find how well their wants may be supplied by post.

FRESH AIR AND PURE WATER are essential to the success of a laundry. These, together with other essential conditions of not only a modern but a model first-class equipment, are to be found at the Holland House Laundry, Burmester-road, Lower Tooting, S.W. It is strongly recommended by members of the League whose experience of the good work done at moderate cost extends over many years. Our members within reach will do well to visit the laundry; they will be impressed, but those at a distance can be well served, as carts deliver in town daily.

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BRANCH NOTES.

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly on ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, THE VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE: NOTE BY AGENDA COMMITTEE.

To Branch Secretaries.

The Agenda Committee wishes to point out that in remark on Resolution No. 22, put in by Hampstead, in the list of comments circulated to branches with the Conference Resolutions, the wording should be:—

"If previous resolutions 3, 4, or 5" (instead of "If any previous resolution"), &c.

The remark as it stands applies to Resolution No. 10.

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

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

Will all members do their best to make the Whist Drive on February 21 a great success? Will all who undertake to contribute refreshments kindly let the secretary know what they are prepared to supply by February 16? The hon. treasurer will be glad to receive this year's subscriptions at an early date.

Clapham.

Members are asked to make a special effort to attend the general meeting at 1, Imperial-mansions, Bromells-road, on Tuesday, February 17, at eight o'clock, to discuss amendments to resolutions for annual Conference.

East London.

All members and friends are cordially invited to our Whist Party at Haydn House, Fairlop-road, Leytonstone, E., on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 7.15 p.m. Will all members who have promised to lend packs of cards make every effort not to forget them? Members who are bringing refreshments are asked to come early. The next Branch meeting will be at 37, Wellington-buildings, Bow, E., on February 19, at 7 p.m., when our Conference delegate will be appointed.

Mid-London.

Members are reminded of the Branch meeting to be held at 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, on Thursday, February 19, at 7.30, and an urgent request is made to all to show their practical interest by attending. In accordance with a suggestion received from Dr. Knight, it was decided at the last meeting that all members should be asked to contribute to a voluntary levy to Headquarters until a General Election takes place. The contributions may be paid monthly through the Branch treasurer, Miss Hunt, 66, Pyland-road, Canonbury, N., or at the W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-street. Every member present promised help in sums varying from 6d. to 2s. per month, and further promises will be gratefully acknowledged.

Tottenham.

A successful meeting was held last Friday at 30, Lausanne-road, Hornsey, and the next fortnightly members' meeting will be on Friday, February 20, at 91, Mount Pleasant-road, South Tottenham, at seven

Chapter 11

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o'clock, to discuss Conference resolutions. Will members make a special effort to attend?

PROVINCES.—Aintree.

A very successful "At Home" was held at Girtonville College Hall on January 27. The Rev. A. G. Bernard, M.A., who presided, said he was proud to support the Women's Cause, because he realised its essential spirituality and that its ideals were in accord with those of the truest Christianity. Miss Andrews spoke eloquently on the spiritual and moral aspect of the movement, and new members were enrolled. Miss Elena Watson delighted everyone with her singing and Miss Maxwell was an able accompanist.

Brighton and Hove.

There will be a social in aid of the local funds on Saturday, Feb. 14, at 8 p.m., at 19, Norfolk-terrace. Admission, 6d. Miss Grace Nightingale has promised to recite. There will be music, clairvoyance, and other attractions. It is hoped that members will bring as many friends as possible. A meeting has also been arranged at the same hour and place for Monday, February 23, particulars of which will be given next week.

Burnage.

The usual Branch meetings have been held during the last month. A fortnight ago we had the pleasure of welcoming again our esteemed London organiser, Miss Andrews. The meeting was crowded with interested members and friends, and at the close new members were enrolled. The other Branch meetings have been well attended.

Grays.

We look forward to a good number of members at our next Branch meeting on Wednesday, February 18, at the Victoria Café, High-street, when Dr. Knight, the hon. treasurer of the Women's Freedom League, will, if possible, attend.

Middlesbrough.

Our "At Homes" are a very popular feature of our work, and on January 26 Hinton's Café was again crowded to its utmost extent. The Rev. T. C. Gobat, of St. James' Church, Darlington, gave fresh inspiration to those who heard his earnest and eloquent address. Though it was the first time he had spoken from the platform of the Women's Freedom League, he has a splendid record of work done in the Cause of Women's Suffrage; he was one of the speakers against the "Cat and Mouse" Act at the Queen's Hall meetings last July. At an "At Home" he spoke of the terrible evils of the White Slave Traffic, and said "that the fact that women valued a human life more than property lay at the root of militancy." He declared that the denial of the vote to women was immoral in the truest sense of the word, as it was inconsistent with true ethics. It assumed that women were inferior to men, and that man had the right to make laws under which women had to live. In all democratic States every human being had a right to help to make the laws.

A business meeting was held on February 2. It was decided to hold the "Sweated Industries Exhibition" the third week in October. The following resolution was sent to the Town Council, and was discussed at the meeting of the General Purposes Committee held the following day:—"The Women's Freedom League invites the Committee to send two representatives to a meeting in London on February 14 when a resolution calling upon the Prime Minister to bring in a Women's Suffrage Bill will be brought forward." The Mayor pointed out that it was a political matter, and no action was taken. It was decided to sell and circulate a gross of the "Protection of Criminals" pamphlet.

Portsmouth and Gosport.

Will members and friends please save articles for the Jumble Sale which we intend to hold in about a month's time? Next members' meeting will be on February 24 to consider amendments to the resolutions for the Annual Conference. Time and place will be announced next week.

Reading.

A very interesting meeting was held on February 4 in the Palmer Hall, when we had the great pleasure of a visit from our President. Mrs. Despard spoke to an audience numbering about 140 on the different aspects of the W.F.L., clearly explaining the objects, policy, and methods. Mrs. Sacret very ably presided over the meeting. At the Workers' Educational Association meeting if the evening, at which Mrs. Despard lectured on "What we Pay for Civilisation," over three dozen copies of THE VOTE were sold.

Sale.

The Sale Branch of the Women's Freedom League has been reformed. Sale has for long been the centre of Suffrage activity, and now it has awakened to new life and will form a centre from which much work may be expected. Miss Fildes, Miss Geiler and Miss Hines have always kept the flag flying, and it is as a result of their initiative that members are now coming forward to make a fresh start. Miss Andrews has held several meetings in and around Sale; she addressed a mothers' meeting by invitation of its president at the Congregational Church and a unanimous vote was taken in favour of the enfranchisement of women. It is hoped that the different localities in the district will be worked with the help of the Sale members and thus form fresh channels of activity for our centre in Manchester.

SCOTLAND.—Cowdenbeath.

As a result of Miss Ada Broughton's work in this district last week, it is hoped that a Branch of the W.F.L. will be formed. On February 3 Miss Broughton spoke in the Guthrie Memorial Church to the Cowdenbeath Branch of the British Women's Temperance Association, inviting their support of the League, and showing the Temperance legislation which is to-day operative in New Zealand as the direct result of the woman's vote. On Saturday evening, in the same place, Miss Broughton was asked to speak to the "T" Branch of the B.W.T.A. The girls gave her a very attentive hearing. On Wednesday night, in the Rolland-street Hall, Dunfermline, another Branch of the B.W.T.A. was visited, and Miss Broughton was given the opportunity to speak at length on how the vote would further the work of the B.W.T.A., especially in relation to Temperance legislation, purity, the White Slave Traffic, peace and the protection of child life. A similar meeting was held in the Maclean Schools, Dunfermline, the following evening.

Dunfermline.

On February 6 a meeting was held in the Y.M.C.A. Lecture-room, Queen Ann-street, Mrs. Beck presiding. After business matters had

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been dealt with, Miss Ada Broughton gave an address on the "Economic Position of Woman," tracing the part which woman played in primitive culture as producer, and showing how her ancient sphere of domestic labour was forced from her by the institution of slavery, compelling her to become entirely dependent upon man for her subsistence. The next Branch meeting will be held on Thursday, March 5, at 8 p.m., and the social is arranged for March 25, to be held in the Masonic Hall. Tickets, 9d. each. Members are earnestly requested to make this widely known among their friends.

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

On January 28 Dr. Aimée Gibbs dealt with the question of "The State and Venereal Disease." She spoke of the futility of attempts to evade the evil effects of vice by State regulation or segregation in certain areas, as shown by the prevalence of disease where these plans are still in force. The publication of the Doctors' Manifesto and the subsequent appointment of the Royal Commission were recognised as steps in advance, and the policy of compulsory notification was explained. The Branch is greatly indebted to Dr. Gibbs for her clear exposition of a difficult subject, and also to Mrs. Burnett, whose first "Chairman's Remarks" were most appropriate and helpful. At the "At Home" on February 4 Miss M. A. Wood presided, and Miss Eunice Murray gave a graphic account of her recent work in England. She spoke specially of Police Court work and the Wetherall case, and her recital of the facts roused much indignation. She afterwards sold many copies of the pamphlet dealing with the case. We are faced with a by-election in Leith Burghs, and all who can help in any way are requested to communicate with Miss Jack.

WALES.—Swansea.

Since the business meeting of the Branch last week, the chief event of interest for our members has been the debate between Miss Pott and Miss Foxley, arranged by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. The room lent by the Junior Imperial Club was filled to overflowing, and the numbers, their keen attention, and the final vote, favourable to the enfranchisement of women, spoke well for local interest in the question. The Freedom League was well represented in the audience, and a good number of our members took part in the debate. We hope to get an opportunity of examining Miss Pott's logic in detail. Mrs. Wheatley's accession to the Branch is likely to prove a new source of life. Mrs. Ross and Mrs. Wheatley are taking up the valuable work of VOTE selling. Some of our members are hopeful of stimulating friends in the Free Churches to start a Branch of the Free Church League. Will members keep in mind the Jumble Sale planned for just before Easter?

ONE ALWAYS KNOWS WHERE TO FIND JOHN PIGGOTT! Forty years in Cheapside at the corner of Milk-street is something of a record. One always knows, too, that good things will be found at John Piggott's, from tailoring and outfitting to sports or spectacles, not to mention gramophones, barometers, or microscopes. In fact, one wonders what *cannot* be found there, and the prices are remarkably reasonable.

JUSTICE FOR EVER!

Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage War Song.

Airs—"The Macgregors' Gathering."

[To be sung at the Mass Meeting, Memorial Hall, London, February 14, 3 p.m., and at the Trafalgar-square Demonstration on February 15.]

We've come from the North and the heather's on fire;
To fight for the Women—our only desire;
At last we've been roused thro' the treachery shown
By knaves at Westminster—the knaves we disown!
Then rally, rally, rally, Englishmen!
With the Scots by your side, help the Cause that is just—
The mothers who bore us, we cannot but trust—
They're voteless, voteless, voteless!
Voteless, voteless, voteless!
Then prove yourselves heroes! Oppressors? No, never!
The Women shall triumph! It's Justice for ever!

The torture of martyrs has stirred the whole nation—
Wives, sisters, and mothers—vile degradation!
It's shameful shameful, shameful, Englishmen!
Shameful, shameful, shameful!

Then join the fray—turn the Government out
That still dares the Mandate of voters to flout;
For Freedom our forefathers fought long ago,
And their sons from auld Scotland will strike, too, a blow!
Then help us, help us, Englishmen!
The Forcible Feeding and "Cat-and-Mouse Bill,"
We're now more determined than ever to kill;
Then rally, rally, rally!
Rally, rally, rally!

"Votes for Women!" our cry. Cease fighting? No, never!
Till victory is won, and—Justice for ever!

J. WILSON McLAREN.

Mrs. Arcliffe Sennett, the founder, and Miss Nannie Brown, the secretary of the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage, paid a visit to the Edinburgh Council Chambers on February 3 to make arrangements in connection with the deputation to London to take part in the Suffrage demonstrations on February 14 and 15. Several members of the Town Council, including Councillors Murray and Crawford, are to make the journey. The ladies had a very good reception, and were entertained to luncheon by the Lord Provost and Councillors.

A very large and enthusiastic meeting of the Federation was held at the Mound, Edinburgh, on Sunday afternoon, giving the members a good send-off to the London Convention on February 14.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.
LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Wed., Feb. 13.—CROYDON W.F.L. OFFICE, 32A, The Arcade. Public Meeting, 3.30. Speaker from The Divorce Law Reform Union.
Sat., Feb. 14.—LETTONSTONE, Haydn House, Fairlop-road, East London Whist Party, 7.15 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 16.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi. Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m., to be opened by Miss Hodges. Subject, "The General Effect of the Women's Vote in Australia and New Zealand." Chair: Miss Rollinson.
Tues., Feb. 17.—CLAPHAM, 1, Imperial-mansions, Bromells-road, Clapham Branch General Meeting, 8 p.m. CROYDON, Branch Meeting, 7.30.
Wed., Feb. 18.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. The Rev. Moritz Weston, D.D., on "Christianity and Mary, Magdalene," and Miss Boyle. Admission free.
Thurs., Feb. 19.—1, ROBERT-STREET, ADELPHI, Mid-London Branch Members' Meeting, 7.30. CHELSEA, 55, GLEBE-PLACE, Drawing-room Meeting (by kind permission of Mrs. Meeson Coates), 8 p.m. Speech on "The Case for Divorce Law Reform." East London Branch Meeting, 7 p.m., 37, Wellington-buildings.
Fri., Feb. 20.—91, MOUNT PLEASANT-ROAD, Tottenham Branch Members' Meeting, 7 p.m.
Mon., Feb. 23.—25, WIMPOLE-STREET, W., Drawing-room Meeting (by kind invitation of Dr. I. Lewin), 4-6 p.m. Miss Cicely Hamilton and the Rev. C. Baumgarten. Chair: Mrs. Hyde.
Wed., Feb. 25.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m., Mrs. M. Cunningham; "The Race-Bearers and the Falling Birth-rate in France." BROMLEY, The Literary Institute, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tamer.
Fri., Feb. 27.—CROYDON W.F.L. OFFICE, 32A, The Arcade. Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Becher. CAXTON HALL, W.F.L. Dance, 8-12 p.m. Tickets 3s. (including supper). Proceeds to Headquarter Funds.

PROVINCES.

Mon., Feb. 16.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, 8 p.m. Speaker: Mr. Kelsall. Subject: "Anomalies of Present System." Burnage Branch Meeting.
Tues., Feb. 17.—Winchester, 2, Birinus-avenue, Working Party for members and friends (by kind permission of Mrs. Grove Jones). READING, Palmer Hall, Meeting for members and friends, 8 p.m.
Wed., Feb. 18.—Grays, Victoria Café, High-street, 8 p.m., Branch Meeting.
Thurs., Feb. 19.—Chester, Brown and Co.'s Sale Room, St. John-street, 8 p.m., Meeting. Speaker: Mr. John Morris. Subject, "Why Men Should Support Women's Suffrage."
Mon., Feb. 23.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, 7.30 p.m., "At Home." Speaker: Miss Winifred Jones; "Things That Count."
Wed., Feb. 25.—Manchester, Branch Meeting, 7.30.

SCOTLAND.

Tues., Feb. 17.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, 2.30. Dr. Aimee Gibbs; "Our Babies: How to Keep Them Well." Tea, 2.30-3 p.m. Admission 2d.
Wed., Feb. 18.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, 8 p.m. Miss Paterson, Lady Commissioner, N.F.I. Act: "Woman and the Insurance Act," 8.30 p.m. Members' Meeting: Conference Resolutions.
Thurs., Feb. 26.—Paisley, Room in Central Halls (one stair up), Branch Meeting: Members and friends.

WALES.

Montgomery Boroughs Campaign.
Mon., Feb. 16.—Newtown, Public Hall, Women's Suffrage Demonstration, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Wynne Nevinson, L.L.A., Miss Anna Munro, and Mr. John Scurr. Chair: Miss Alix M. Clark.
Tues., Feb. 17.—Montgomery, Town Hall, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark. Carno, Old Schools, Public Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark.
Wed., Feb. 18.—Newtown, Public Hall, "At Home," 3-7 p.m. Miss Anna Munro: "White Slave Traffic." Chair: Mrs. Flora Annie Steel.
Thurs., Feb. 19.—Llanymynech, Church House, Public Meeting, 7.30. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Mrs. Peeploe Cartwright.
Fri., Feb. 20.—Llanfryn, Town Hall, "At Home." Miss Anna Munro: "White Slave Traffic." Chair: Mr. J. Lomax (Mayor).
Mon., Feb. 23.—Llanerfyl, Village Hall, Public Meeting, 7.30. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Mr. C. Garfit.
Tues., Feb. 24.—Berriew, Assembly Rooms, Public Meeting. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Mr. W. Pritchard.
Wed., Feb. 25.—Oswestry, Horse Market, Open-air Meeting 1 p.m. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark. Kerry, Reading Rooms, Public Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark.
Thurs., Feb. 26.—Welshpool, Town Hall, Public Meeting, 8 p.m., Speakers: Mrs. Wynne Nevinson, L.L.A., Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Mr. A. P. Busch-Michell.
Fri., Feb. 27.—Llanbrynmair, Public Meeting. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark.
Sat., Feb. 28.—Newtown, Severn-square, Open-air Meeting. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Tues., Feb. 17.—WEST ESSEX WOMEN'S FRANCHISE SOCIETY, Buckhurst-hill Hall, 8 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle, W.F.L.
Wed., Feb. 18.—LIDGE, Expt, St. John's Rooms, Debate arranged by Men's Debating Society. Affirmative: Mrs. Leigh Rothwell.
Thurs., Feb. 19.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Presbyterian Church Guild, Newton-road. Address on Women's Suffrage by Mrs. Schofield Coates, 8 p.m.

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The Advertisement Manager wishes to thank those members who in answer to her appeal, have sent in receipts of their purchases with firms advertising in "THE VOTE," and will be glad if they will continue to do so every week.

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SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

We accept Announcements of Suffrage and kindred Meetings for this Column at the rate per single insertion of 2s. for 24 words, 1d. every additional word; four insertions at the price of three. All Announcements must be Prepaid, and, to ensure insertion, should reach the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, Vote Office, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, London, by the First Post on Tuesday Morning.

LADIES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.—RECEPTION to the NORTHERN MEN'S FEDERATION, Caxton Hall, Sunday, February 15th, 8 to 11. Music, recitation, speeches, refreshments. Tickets 2s. 6d.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 9, Grafton-street, W. Subscription One Guinea. Wednesday, February 18, 3.30 to 6, Club Tea (Lecture 4.30). Miss Rosika Schwimmer.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, Sloane-square, S.W.—MATINEE, New Suffrage Play, THE BETTER HALF, by Alison Garland, Saturday, February 14, 2.30. Tickets: Stalls, 10s. 6d., 7s. 6d., 4s. 6d.; Dress Circle, 7s. 6d., 5s.; Upper Circle, 4s., 3s.; Pit, 2s. 6d.; Gallery, 1s. Telephone, Gerrard 348.

LITERARY.

PLAYS, DUOLOGUES, MONOLOGUES, dealing with all phases of the Woman's Movement, 3d. and 6d. For Drawing-rooms, Platforms or Stage purposes. Descriptive List (2d.) post free on application.—ACTRESS'S FRANCHISE LEAGUE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi.

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MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

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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ONE
PENNY]

THE VOTE

[WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

ORGANISED BY THE "VOTES FOR WOMEN" FELLOWSHIP

All Suffragists should attend the
PUBLIC MEETING IN THE KINGSWAY HALL

Thursday, February 26th, at 8 p.m.

Chair: Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE

SPEAKERS:

SIR HARRY JOHNSTON

(The famous African Explorer and Administrator)

Miss LENA ASHWELL

Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY

and Mr. PETHICK LAWRENCE

TICKETS: Front Central Stalls and Balcony (numbered and reserved), 2s. 6d.; other Stalls and Balcony (numbered and reserved), 1s.; Unreserved Stalls, 6d. (unreserved balcony all sold out), from the Ticket Secretary, "Votes for Women," 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

TICKETS SHOULD BE TAKEN AT ONCE.

NORTHERN MEN'S FEDERATION FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Founder and Hon. Organiser—Mrs. ARNCLIFFE-SENNETT.

Now's the Day, and Now's the Hour!

TO WELCOME THE MEN OF THE NORTH.

SATURDAY, 14th inst., at 3 O'CLOCK

(Doors open 2.30).

MEMORIAL HALL, Farringdon Street, Ludgate Circus.

SPEAKERS will include:

Mrs. CAVENDISH BENTINCK, Baillie ALSTON, J.P., Councillor BARRIE, Councillor CAMERON, J.P., Councillor CRAWFORD, Ex-Baillie GORDON, Miss NANNIE BROWN (Hon. Sec., Edinburgh), Councillor BRUCE LINDSAY, Baillie JOHN MURRAY, J.P., Councillor ROSSLYN MITCHELL, M.A., LL.B., Ex-Provost PERRY, Mr. ROBERT SMILLIE (engagements permitting), Councillor WILKIE, M.P., and Mrs. ARNCLIFFE-SENNETT (Chair).

(Councillor WILKIE, M.P., and Mr. SMILLIE are as yet not Members of the Northern Men's Federation.)

MR. GEORGE LANSBURY WILL DELIVER A MESSAGE OF WELCOME.

ADMISSION FREE.—A few reserved seats, 2s. 6d., for which tickets can be secured from the ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, or from the Secretary, 6, Wellington-road, St. John's Wood.

THE NORTHERN MEN'S FEDERATION will also hold a

MASS MEETING, TRAFALGAR SQ.,

SUNDAY (15th inst.)

At 3 o'clock.

SPEAKERS:

Platform 1 (facing National Gallery).—Chair: Mrs. ARNCLIFFE-SENNETT, Baillie ALSTON, J.P., Councillor BARRIE, Mr. WILSON McLAREN, Ex-Baillie RAE, Mr. BRUNTON.

Platform 2 (facing East).—Chair: Mrs. CAVENDISH BENTINCK. Councillor CRAWFORD, Councillor HAMILTON BROWN, J.P., Councillor CHARLTON, Ex-Councillor COLBRON, Mr. ILLINGWORTH, Mr. SHAW.

Platform 3 (facing West).—Chair: Miss NANNIE BROWN. Ex-Baillie GORDON, Councillor WHITEHEAD, J.P., Councillor TURNER, Councillor WALKER, Mr. RENNIE, J.P., Mr. TRAINER.

VOTERS AND SUFFRAGISTS ALL SEE THAT THE SQUARE BE FULL.