

The Common Cause

The Organ of the National Union of
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE
Societies.

Registered as a Newspaper.

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Notes and Comments.

Nearing the End.

The Pilgrimage, which has given Suffragists such an unexampled opportunity of putting their case before many to whom it was still new, is nearing its close. In many places the size of the crowds at the meetings has taken the police authorities by surprise, and there has in consequence been some trouble. But in spite of this the meetings have in the large majority of cases been held in perfect order, and we get reports of crowds numbering from one to seven or eight thousands. The Pilgrims must surely have felt that their great march through England and Wales has brought their Cause appreciably forward; that we are "nearing the end" in more senses than one.

Winning the Common Cause.

Many who at first objected to the Pilgrimage in theory have been converted by the Pilgrimage in practice. We have received from one such critic a generous admission of its success. He writes:—

"As one of those who did not, at first, warmly support the Pilgrimage, let me say how completely I have been converted by its success. The interest which the Pilgrims roused in Macclesfield has, in the opinion of good judges, never been exceeded; and the packed meeting at the Town Hall, and the overflow meeting outside, surpassed not only all expectation but all precedent, even at a General Election.

I do not think any political party—except the Women's Suffrage party—could have induced their members to undertake a pilgrimage on foot to London on behalf of their most cherished ideals. My experience of political pilgrimages is that the pilgrims require a special train, with luncheon *en route* and further refreshments of a substantial character on arrival at their destination. The self-sacrifice of women—so touchingly shown—must surely appeal to the real chivalry of men, and win for the Common Cause of men and women a notable victory."

Some of the Pilgrims.

All the leaders and workers in the Union who could possibly spare even a few days from the toil of organisation have been "on the road." Mrs. Fawcett has been walking for weeks. Miss Margaret Ashton rushes to and fro, walking and speaking, and going back to Manchester at intervals. Miss Frances

Sterling is walking from Land's End; Mrs. Auerbach from Brighton; Miss Courtney and Miss Marshall have been on the road, and Mrs. Harley and Miss Eleanor Rathbone. Every one of the officers, and even the office staff, gave their brief respite on Saturday afternoon to become Pilgrims for a few hours! Among the band has been Lady Rochdale and Lady Maud Parry, and the Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, Mrs. Logan Pearsall Smith, M.A., and Professor Rowntree, B.Sc., F.L.S., Sir Harry and Lady Johnston, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Mr. and Mrs. Haslam, Dr. Sloan Chesser, Mrs. Rowland Prothero, and Mr. Mirlees.

But it is not possible even to mention a tithe of those who deserve to have their names written in gold in the records of the Women's Movement; the organisers, the speakers, the correspondents, the rank and file who every day (on some routes) encounter violence and bestiality—walk right into it—knowing what they have to meet, and facing it in such a gallant spirit. It is impossible ever to convey to them one half of what those who look on are feeling. Will they understand something of what cannot be put into words, when they hear that one Society which had turned out to greet the Pilgrims as they arrived, did so in silence, simply because they could not speak? "Here they come," said one; "let us give them a cheer!" And they all prepared to shout their best, "But when we saw them winding down the hill towards us," went on the speaker, "when we realised what they were doing, and what they meant, we got such a lump in our throats that we couldn't do it."

The sum raised by the Pilgrims amounts already to nearly £6,000. Who will "pay ransom" for not marching (themselves)?

Suffragists and the Police.

We have received a great many complaints as to the inadequate protection afforded by the police to Pilgrimage meetings, and also many tributes to the courtesy and skill of individual policemen. Those who read the reports of our Pilgrimage correspondents will realise that the Pilgrims have suffered in some cases a long-continued strain of mental anxiety, besides actual physical violence and brutality. "I have seen some rough sights in my life," writes one gentleman to a Cheltenham newspaper, "but I have never seen women so ill-treated by men before." Dr. Chesser writes of the same riot that she and others were "deluged with eggs," and there is no doubt that the Pilgrims have many times been in real danger. At Thame, at St. Neots, at most of the Black Country towns, and elsewhere, meetings have been broken up and lives endangered. The report is always that this is the work of a few roughs. *We desire to know who set them on, and why no arrests are ever made?*

The International Suffrage Movement.

It will be remembered that the Congress at Budapest decided to establish an International Headquarters, leaving the decision as to place with the Board of Officers. London has now been decided on, and Great Britain feels much honoured. The International Suffrage paper, *Jus Suffragii*, gives as the chief reason for this decision the fact that London is "the Press centre of the world," and is therefore the obvious place for an International Board, one of whose chief duties is to publish

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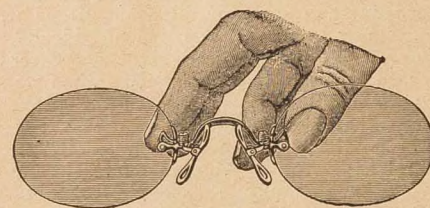
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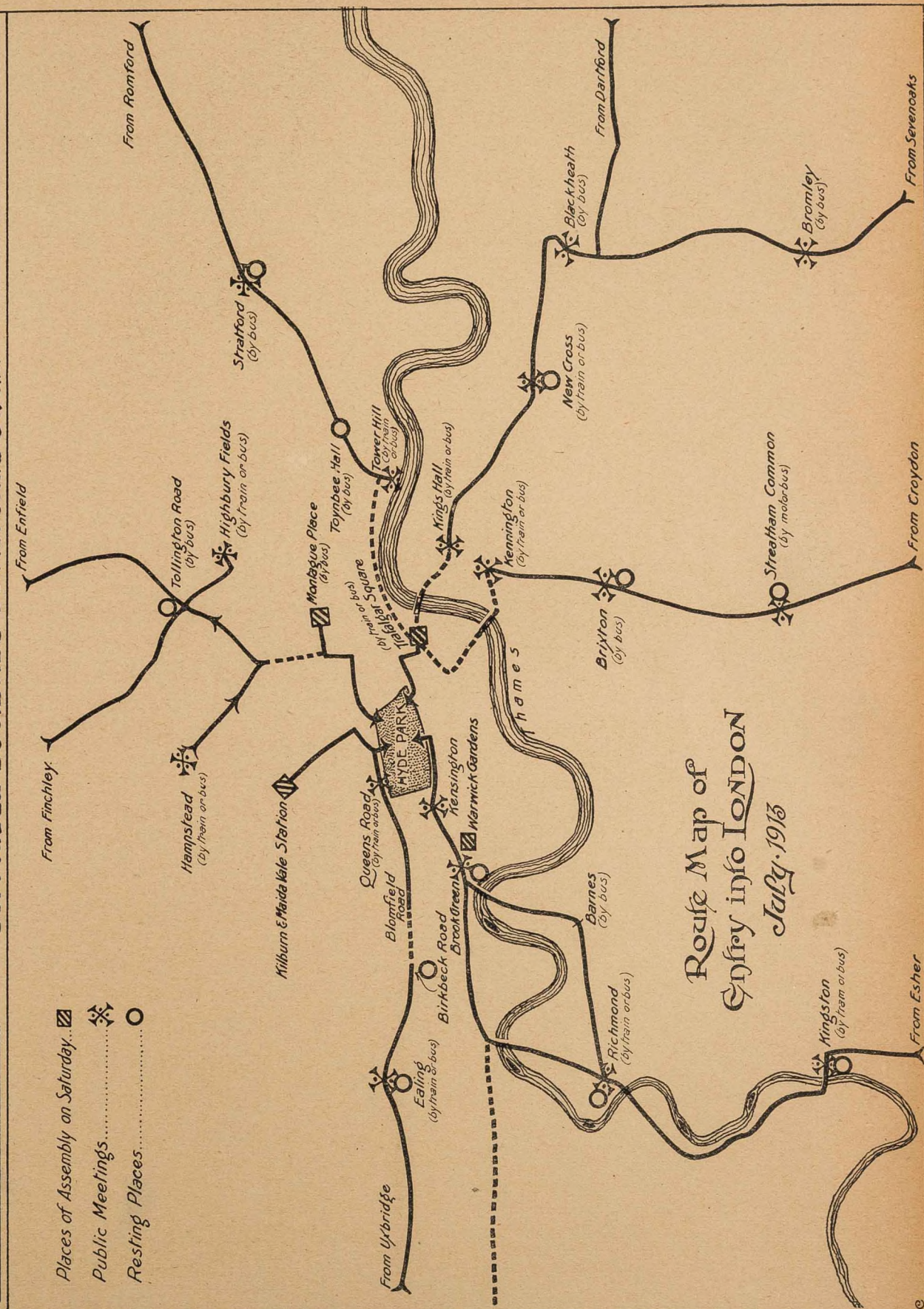
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Route Map of
Entry into London
July 1913

reliable and up-to-date news in an International paper. On the other hand, it is useless to deny that we are, as a people, not regarded as being "good Internationalists." The charge of insularity sticks fast, and has certainly not been without justification in the past. It is probably useless to complain or to protest (what we are convinced is true) that the British are now as anxious to understand the point of view of other nations as they were once indifferent. It lies with us to convince by action rather than protest. We may begin by sending in our subscriptions at once to *Jus Suffragii*, the monthly organ of the Alliance, and getting all the information we can.

The International Alliance and Militancy.

One strong objection to the choice of London appears to have been the fear of giving the Alliance a "militant" reputation. And this may seem a little strange to those who heard or read of the applause given by two or three of the delegations to Budapest to speeches on militant methods. Nothing, however, struck us more forcibly than the absolute conviction that militancy *would not do* in the country of any other delegate, however much it might be commended to the British. The reason given for this curious attitude of mind was that it was only Englishmen who were so incurably stupid and brutal as to require such treatment; all others were open to reason. We Constitutional Suffragists, on the contrary, believe that our fellow countrymen are at least as good as—perhaps it is dangerous to specify—as any others. It is well to remember that in the countries where Women's Suffrage has been won it has always been by law-abiding agitation; and that it is the firm belief of the women who have not yet won it that with them also Constitutional methods will succeed. Are we to assume that our fellow-countrymen, alone in all the world, are not open to reason or capable of justice? Or may we conclude that our Continental and American critics are also sometimes a little—pardonably—"insular"?

The Responsibilities of the Weak.

We cannot refrain from quoting the admirable letter from Mrs. Acland (in last week's *Nation*), in which she meets the argument that Liberal women need not insist on Liberals being Suffragists, because they have not the power to do so successfully. Mrs. Acland leaves that point aside, to say instead that if it were true it would not be relevant. "*It has never been urged by any respectable moralist that only people with loud and powerful voices are under obligation to speak out the truth.*" This ought to be written on the hearts of all who do nothing because they cannot do much, and say nothing because they are not influential; and fail to realise that the obligations of duty are theirs, whether they have ten talents or one. Indeed, it is too generally forgotten that it was the owner of one who has come down to us as a terrible example!

A Vast Educational Campaign.

The National Union is projecting a great scheme of propaganda for the coming autumn and winter months, which will be carried on simultaneously throughout the whole country. Every Suffragist knows that the Cause has everything to gain from an enlightened public opinion, and it has been noticed again and again that it is the Suffragists who always ask for free discussion and the Anti-Suffragists who always want to suppress it. (This was only recently made clear by the attitude of both sides towards the proposed discussion of "the Woman's Movement" at the coming Church Congress.) We desire nothing better than full and free discussion, and it is proposed that experts on all subjects of public interest which touch on the Suffrage movement in any way, shall be asked to address meetings and lead discussion upon these subjects. Everyone, whether Suffragist or Anti-Suffragist, will be welcomed. We have sufficient confidence in our cause to feel certain that the result will be to make converts by the thousand.

Towards International Peace.

A leaflet published by the National Service League calls attention to the fact that the desire to seek peace and ensue it is becoming very widespread. It quotes the testimony of Mr. Norman Angell, Mr. Hyndman, and the Canterbury Women's Social and Political League (New Zealand)—a somewhat surprising list—to prove that universal service should be regarded as at least one method of establishing peace. It is a question on which it is perhaps rash to generalise; but we believe that the influence of women would be very strong against aggressive war; very strong in defence; and exceedingly hostile to the evils involved in the enforcement of barrack life.

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The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies being a body which exists solely to obtain the enfranchisement of women, holds no official view upon any other topic. Opinions expressed upon other subjects must not be regarded as necessarily those of the Union.

The End—and the Beginning.

*"The angels keep their ancient places—
Turn out a stone, and start a wing!
'Tis ye, 'tis your estranged faces
That miss the many-splendoured thing.
But (when so sad thou canst not sadder)
Cry; and upon thy so sore loss
Shall shine the traffic of Jacob's ladder,
Pitched between Heaven and Charing Cross."*

WHEN these pages are in the hands of our readers, the great Pilgrims' Progress will be nearing its triumphant close. Pouring into London along every road—North, South, East, and West—the Pilgrims come from the ends of the kingdom to testify before the people the reason of the faith that is in them. All along the way they have preached the enfranchisement of women to crowds that number now, if put together, tens scores, hundreds of thousands. Everywhere they have met with sympathy and understanding on the part of the many, and they have rejoiced to think the end of the great struggle near. But everywhere, also, there are still a few who detest their Cause and all it stands for; and the Pilgrims have often been in danger at the hands of hooligans. They have suffered insult and even blows, from those who neither cared to listen nor were able to refute their arguments.

What sort of women are they who do these things? Let us tell you one of them. She will serve as a type of them all. One woman walks with the Pilgrims who has served, and led, the cause of women's freedom for over forty years. But she has served the public good in many other ways also. She has a record that many a statesman might envy, and the Government of this country has sent her on its errands and distinguished her by its recognition. She has intellectual distinction, too; has been honoured by Universities, and is known as an author to the educated world. Nor is this all. It is not half. This woman, who is now on Pilgrimage, was the wife of a great Government servant—Henry Fawcett, the blind Postmaster-General. To him she was both eyes and hands. Without her his work could not have been done. And her daughter carries on the tradition of service. Her brilliant abilities—she surpassed all the men of her year at Cambridge—are now devoted to the cause of Education, and the Government which denies her a vote appoints her to one of its most important posts.

In what sense is this, our leader, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, a type of all the Pilgrims? All cannot claim such a record; few men or women anywhere could do so. But they, like her, desire to serve with such gifts as they have. Like her, they are moved by a sense of the justice of their cause. Like her, they believe they have only to show men the justice and the urgency of it to win.

Not only from the ends of the kingdom, but from the ends of the world, the Pilgrims come, if we had eyes to see them. No country now but has its "womans' movement," its stirring among women asking for freedom, and for wider service. Each Pilgrim here is the representative of millions who cannot be here, but who walk and suffer in the Pilgrims' Progress of the world. Had we but eyes to see the things of the spirit, how vast an assembly to-day is "on the road"! And those who march the streets of London to-day are but a tiny part of that great army of women, of whom some have already won a step towards their goal—the step of political freedom—while others are only

just beginning the toilsome way. It is the thought of those who are just ahead which inspires those whom you see marching now. For the women of our country look abroad, and see that elsewhere, where the mothers are freer, the children are happier. Where women work side by side with men, in countries where the victory of Women's Suffrage has been won, better conditions of life prevail, and the world is made a fairer place for children to grow up in. They cannot rest, these Suffragists, till they have won the right to serve their own country and their own children so. They look at home, and see so many foul places, so many social sores among the fair places of England, and they desire to help the men in the work of purification.

They come peaceably. Pilgrims carry no weapons. If violence is used, it must be against them; for they use none. They appeal to your sense of justice. Is it not enough?

The Pilgrimage has another meaning, which does not appear on the surface: except, indeed, that you may see the Pilgrims are tired, and travel-stained, and all the gay colours they wear are only the colours of the National Union. For it is no light errand they are on, and to be a Pilgrim is no holiday matter. They desire, these women, to share the sufferings which, for the present at least, they cannot prevent. There are many homeless women in our country, and women in homes not fit for so beautiful a name: the Pilgrims also are homeless for a little while. There are women who, because they are very poor and greatly tempted, lead lives of shame and perpetual insult. The Pilgrims also meet insult and abuse. There are women whose hard laborious lives are one long act of self-sacrifice. The Pilgrims dedicate themselves to the service of such. They will not tell you this; but we tell it you. If you despise them and laugh at them, they are proud of your abuse. If you respect them they are glad, because they know you have understood why they are there.

Fellow-countrymen, these weary and travel-stained ones, who have carried the Suffrage colours from all the ends of the Kingdom to its capital, are a challenge to you. Consider well what they mean. If you do so, the Pilgrimage of the women of England will, when it reaches its end in London, be no end, but a beginning—"the beginning of a fairer time."

Army Clothing Workers.

THE women in the Army Clothing Works are delighted with their victory. The girls had come out finely, had marched to the War office, and within ten minutes were given an audience. "We have got our 3½d. on the red work, and now they dare not take the 2½d. off the drab. We are hoping to get something better for the drill hands, too. They had 6½d. taken off some time ago." It was good to hear this from one of the workers, a young woman with six boys to feed and a baby of 12 months old, who has to supplement her husband's wages by working all day in the Army Clothing Department. She was one of the women who always found it difficult to squeeze out the pennies for the Children's Country Holiday Fund; but somehow they always went, and when she had paid the money and seen them off to the country, she went back to that buzzing hive of work to sit in the din of the tearing blades as they plough through thick layers of cloth, cutting through the material as easily as if it were butter, and dissecting it into something which resembles human shapes—trousers, tunics, frocks—while the scarlet blinds the eye, and the hundreds of machines make a deafening and perpetual roar.

Here the men are time workers, and the women piece workers. Many of the men are not content; it is true that they now get 24s. instead of 21s., which they had formerly, but this has been accompanied by cessation of three days' leave. A man of about seventy years, a skilled worker who had worked there all his life, told me that he would never get a pension because "his wages were not high enough." The women get a holiday on the King's birthday and the Saturday before Easter, and are paid for these days, but for no others. "We tunic workers think our work is the most skilled, but we only get 4s. for Royal Artillery, Highlander 4s. 11d., King's Royal Rifle 3s. 5d., Irish Rifle 3s. 5d., Rifle Brigade 3s. 9d., Guards 5s., Dragoons 5s., Army Service 3s. 11d.; most of the work is full time, and at that you can get 3s. a day. On an average it works out at about 18s. a week. We are there from 8.30 till 6 in the evening."

"The drab work is not so skilled, but they often earn more. They get 2s. 11d. for a drab frock, the ordinary drab khaki coat. They have to put in front pockets, tabs, &c., do the work

by hand, and press it; perhaps a quick worker might get 23s. a week. The red coat serge workers get very bad payment. Eighteen months ago they began agitating for better wages, but when they went to Colonel Jackson, C.C.O., they were told that if they got the money on the red they would be taken off the drab. Well, they didn't say much then, but this year there was a rush of red, so they thought they would try again. They were told it would be inquired into, and then they were told that if they got 3½d. on the red, it would be taken off the drab; that means 2d. off for the sewer, and ½d. off for the machinist, so the girls who work all the time on the drab lose 2d. on each garment, and some can only get five garments done a week. I don't know much about the 'trousers,' continued my friend, "but I have heard it said that they have to make twenty-six pairs before they can get a pound, and where they used to get 1s. they now get 8½d."

"Well, the deduction on the drab didn't affect me much, as I am a 'tunic'; but you see the 'trousers' came out, out of sympathy with the 'drabs,' and all the rest had had reductions except the 'tunics,' so a lot of 'tunics' came out, too, for sympathy. We were not exactly on strike, but we all took leave on the Tuesday, and went out and stood in the yard. On Wednesday there were about 700 or 800 of us, and we formed a great procession. It stretched right up Vauxhall Bridge to the Stores. It seemed funny to be standing there all so quiet, and I didn't know we were going to the War Office; but I went with the other women, and three of them went in and saw Colonel Seely's Private Secretary. You would have laughed, for before we ever heard from the War Office, on the very following Saturday (last Saturday week), there sure enough was a notice signed by the manager, put up in the works, to say that the 3½d. would be put on the red, and that the reduction would not be made on the drab. It is all quite certain now, for last Friday we received the note from the War Office signed by the Secretary of the Union. So that has been quick work, and next we shall have to fight for the 'drills' and the rest."

I did not hear about the women who make the misfits. I have a vivid remembrance of an elderly woman in the Army Clothing Works, who told me she spent her life in trying to put right uniforms which the Tommy who was not the regulation size would not fit. If she had followed her own instinct, she would first have made the clothes to fit the men, and not expected the men to fit the clothes. She seemed to be worse paid than the rest, but it was not the work which was bending her double. "I had two sons, and have lost them both at the war, and I always think of it as I sit here day by day making clothes for the others. Perhaps they will be killed, too."

The whole system was to her one huge misfit, and so it seems to many of us.

E. M. LEAF.

Morals and "The English Review."

The eagerness of undesirable persons to win support from women for their equally undesirable schemes of morality, by proclaiming themselves adherents to the Suffrage Cause, receives really grotesque illustration in *The English Review* of July. Having refused to publish any answer to Mrs. Billington-Greig's attack on those who promoted the White Slave Traffic Act, on the grounds that to do so would be "controversial," the *Review* proceeds to publish an article on "Women and Morality" by "A Mother," which is only not controversial because it is incomprehensible. Passionate appeals for "clear thinking" and "courage" are mingled with statements so strange and so contradictory as to leave the reader's mind in complete bewilderment. Early in the essay we are assured (1) that all unmarried men are immoral; (2) that the men who serve our imperial interests far from home should be forbidden to have intercourse with native women; (3) that "it is not to be expected" that English girls of social standing should go out to such a life; (4) that men who "hail mostly from the Universities" do not want to marry, or have children by, their social inferiors. The conclusion is now left to our slow minds to draw, though there is obviously only one—"better admit organised prostitution out there." Further on, "A Mother" seems to shrink from her own remedy, and proposes instead that men should all be married at twenty (compulsorily?), and that "obviously" divorce should, at the same time, be made very easy. This proposal, again, is no sooner made than—regretfully—rejected, and a new "alternative" put forward. What this alternative is we despair of finding out. It is to be "a new conception of morality" which shall recognise that women are

In Parliament.

July 16th.

ROYAL ARMY CLOTHING FACTORY.—In reply to a question from Mr. F. Hall (U., Dulwich) as to the proposed reductions in the wages of women workers at the Royal Army Clothing Factory, Mr. Harold Baker (L., Accrington) said that "certain changes by way of increase and of reduction were proposed, but after full consideration it was decided to maintain the increase and to withdraw all reductions proposed."

In answer to a further question, Mr. Baker expressed the opinion that the decision of the War Office to withdraw all deductions "was an extremely good illustration of their character as ideal employers."

As the War Office's "very careful investigation" was only made after the women had struck against the proposals to reduce their wages for permanent work by twopence and to increase them by one penny on temporary work, the "ideal" nature of the original proposals was more apparent than real.

NATIONAL INSURANCE ACT.—Mr. Glazebrook (U., Manchester S.) asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer "whether he would provide by means of the Amending Bill to the National Insurance Act that Maternity Benefit be paid to the woman herself and be her property; that the clause in the National Insurance Act dealing with the prescribed fees of the doctor called in under the Midwives Act be struck out of the Act, and that it shall be compulsory for approved societies to pay sick benefit for four weeks in maternity cases of employed women."

Mr. Masterman (Financial Secretary of the Treasury) replied that amendments to the effect suggested had already been put down and would be duly considered in Committee.

July 17th.

GLASGOW PROSECUTION (CASE OF MISS JESSIE BROWN).—On the adjournment of the House, Mr. Rowland Hunt (U., Shropshire, Ludlow) brought up the question of which he had given notice previously, relating to the case of Miss Jessie Brown, who had been wrongfully convicted of being a prostitute in December, 1907. The conviction had been quashed by the Justiciary Appeal Court in 1909. Mr. Hunt asked the Government whether they intended to make due compensation to Miss Brown for "the years she had suffered under unjust allegations." There not being forty members present the House adjourned.

In answer to a question by Mr. H. Booth (L., Pontefract) as to whether he (Mr. Ure) considered "that the position of Miss Brown before the law was satisfactory," Mr. Ure (Lord Advocate) said, "I think so."

July 22nd.

BILLS ABANDONED.—Mr. Asquith announced the intentions of the Government with regard to Bills to be proceeded with, or abandoned, during the remainder of the session. We ask all Suffragists to weigh the importance of those which are to be dropped:—

The Employment of Children Bill.
Milk and Dairies Bill.
Milk and Dairies (Scotland) Bill.

And probably:—

The Elementary Education (Defective and Epileptic Children) Bill.

(Note.—Among the first things undertaken by the enfranchised women of other countries has been the ensuring of a pure milk supply, the protection of children, and improved education.)

The abandonment of the Pure Milk Bills is nothing short of a scandal. It is idiotic to breed tuberculosis in our milk supply, and build "first-class hotels" to house the sufferers afterwards. The Government, responsible only to men, proceeds with the insurance of illness, and abandons its prevention. We do not complain of the first; but the second is more important still.

EDUCATION BILL.—Mr. J. A. Pease (L., Rotherham) introduced a one-clause Bill to permit grants being made from the National Exchequer, in relief of the ratepayer, for medical inspection and treatment in elementary schools. He outlined the proposals to be brought forward by the Government next year. Among them will be the removal of the limit placed on expenditure on Secondary Schools by the "Cockerton Judgment," and the linking up of the whole school system with the Universities. Voluntary schools are to remain an integral part of State education, but the "single-school area" grievance must be met. More power will be given to the Board of Education in the matter of provision of meals for poor children on Sundays and holidays. More teaching will be given in handicrafts and domestic subjects. Mr. Pease ended by saying that the Government were "laying the foundation of a national system, which would be worth some sacrifices, and fitted to employ the gifts of good men in all parties and creeds."

necessary to men. What is to come of this startlingly original idea we cannot discover, and we are reluctant to misinterpret "A Mother's" confused and confusing statement of what may possibly be a sincere desire to "think clearly." But we can make nothing out of it but a considerable admiration for the "Continental" (?) plan of liaisons between men and women of another social class—without, however, allowing the woman to bear children—and a less open advocacy of "organised prostitution." If "A Mother's" "new conception of morality" does not include these, it is much to be desired that she should at once make it clear what it does include. And we suggest that she take the opportunity to withdraw the disgusting charges which she brings against "all unmarried men"—charges which if any Suffragist were to make, she would deserve to be driven from her platform.

We do not accept "A Mother" as a Suffragist in spite of her eager assurances of sympathy. And we apologise to such of our readers as may not unnaturally think her farrago of nonsense unworthy of notice, on the grounds that it seems actually to have disturbed a few. Since this is the case, we earnestly hope *The English Review* will not think it "too controversial" to allow "A Mother" to show a little of the courage she so earnestly recommends to us all, and tell us what she really wants.

During the Pilgrimage.

SELLING "THE COMMON CAUSE."

If any Pilgrims or helpers are willing to sell THE COMMON CAUSE, but have not sent in their names to the London Society, will they look out for the decorated carts or carriages which will follow every route, and get papers from the person in charge? Help at any and every moment will be welcome. More cars and carriages, and more sellers are wanted, both on Friday and Saturday, and it is hoped that some who are coming along the route will put themselves at the service of the paper on either day, or both. Will all Pilgrims remember the urgent importance of getting their own paper before the public this week? It is clear that great confusion must arise in the minds of those who see a "Law-Abiding" procession, and buy a "Militant" paper. They must buy THE COMMON CAUSE!

We hope to have London flooded with sellers and cars, but this must partly depend on the help of the splendid corps which has been making THE COMMON CAUSE known through the country all along, and round, the routes of the Pilgrimage. They will be tired, and deserve a rest, if anyone does. But the final stages are the most important of all, and we ask for help.

In the last resort, if unable to find a COMMON CAUSE car, the office (2, Robert Street, Adelphi, Strand), will be open, and supplies can be had. Remember that selling in Hyde Park is ILLEGAL, and sell at the gates. On no account attempt to sell inside.

The Official Programme will be on the back of our second edition, and sellers should call out this fact, as no other programme will be supplied.

"Extra Pages" Fund.

Our Fund now reaches £168 12s., and we are planning our work for the winter, in the optimistic assurance that readers of THE COMMON CAUSE will not allow it to languish for want of another thirty or forty pounds! With £200, we can go forward with confidence. Please read in "Notes and Comments" this week, a forecast of the Union's vast scheme of educational work for the winter, and consider how essential it is that our paper should have room to make the most of such a great opportunity. Our warmest thanks to all who have helped already:—

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	152	10	6
Rev. W. Hudson Shaw	2	2	0
Miss S. J. Churchman (second donation)	15	0	0
Miss Woolley	5	0	0
Mrs. F. E. Goodey	10	0	0
Miss Venables	5	0	0
Mrs. Napier	1	0	0
Through the Edinburgh Society, as below	1	14	6
	£168	12	0
Through Edinburgh Society:—			
Miss Frances Simson	1	0	0
Mrs. Gordon	10	0	0
Miss E. McLaren	2	0	0
Mr. John M'Michael	2	6	0
	£14	6	0

In the Fighting Line.

By E. C. SOMERVILLE AND MARTIN ROSS.

Authors of "Some Experiences of an Irish R.M.," &c., &c.

There was a moment of hot lull in the debate. We had delivered ourselves of the particular argument that a week of canvassing had proved to be the most telling, and our pulses throbbed with our own eloquence. The stalwart old farmer, who had sat silent in the corner, stirred in his chair, and said, "Wot I says is, 'e that believeth and is baptised, shall be saved, and 'e that believeth not—"

He did not flinch from the conclusion, and neither then nor since have we been able to discover any connection between what he said and the subject under discussion. He wielded the tremendous text as easily as one of his own pitchforks, and his wife groaned, with a perfunctory religious ardour. By an inner current of sympathy we knew that she yearned for our departure in order that she might clear away the tea-things that stood on the table; but the heart of the canvasser must be steeled against such perceptions.

Over against us sat the farmer's son, a clerk-like and self-satisfied youth in blue serge and spectacles; on the plate in front of him were the bacon-parings of his evening meal, out of his mouth proceeded bigotry, ignorance, and the Gospel. The room was perfectly clean, and the boarded floor had a bit of carpet on it; the farmer's wife had, among other things, taught her men to wipe their feet, and purity of political motive seemed inseparable from such white-washed walls.

The political discussion wore on to its close, with fair hearing, with arguments from father and son, bewildering in their remoteness from the point at issue, with the vials of The Revelation emptied irrelevantly forth in chapter and verse, with that ready belief in an opponent's honesty that makes the strength and the weakness of England.

The old farmer heaved himself on to his legs to see us to the garden gate, the socialistic son pressed tracts into our hands, the tired pony of the canvasser was turned for home, and the clatter of the tea-things told that the arrested activities of the housewife had been resumed. The heat, that had been stupefying throughout the fervent day, lingered in the roads and hedgerows; clean women, with pale respectable faces, sat among the flowers at the cottage doors and breathed the warm breeze; the Conservative blue or the Liberal orange placarded the windows that their hands had made so bright, but there, it appeared, their political opinions found their single outlet. They regarded with pessimistic resignation the preoccupation of their lords with these matters, the blue or the orange, Colonel Jones or Mr. Smith. Theirs it was to fill in, stitch by stitch, the political designs, sketched by Colonel Jones or Mr. Smith, and sanctioned by their lords in those long ale-house symposiums which they accepted as the inevitable vehicle of politics. Upon them, in their daily labours, fell the ultimate burden imposed by those remote potentates, the Members of Parliament; dumb as the farm-horses that toiled on the long roads, paying the piper in unresentful effort without a thought of calling the tune.

Till midnight voices at the archway of the hotel debated heavily the alternative attractions set forth by Mr. Smith and Colonel Jones; when brisk footsteps began to move again in the early morning sunshine, the names of the rival candidates were still in the air. At seven-thirty the landlady was at my door, with a beaming face and the *Standard*, the latter, obviously, already read to the bone. In those days the *Standard* had no "Woman's Page"; Suffragettes, militant or otherwise, were as impossible as aeroplanes, and Suffragists crept about like mice, within walls, only occasionally showing their noses in a sympathetic drawing-room. Not, however, like the way of the mouse within the wall was the path appointed for the female canvasser by the political organisation to which she belonged, and, presently, impelled by the hated voice of conscience, weighed down by anxieties about the coming day, we went forth again into the arena, as cowardly gladiators as ever drew sword.

As we lifted the dazzling brass knocker of a semi-detached villa we felt that it was the flinging away of the scabbard. Was our memory quite clear as to the numbers of the Irish electorate? Had we forgotten the figures of the latest outrage in taxation? Was — here the door opened—Was Mr. Brown at home?

Mr. Brown, in person, replied that he was, with an agitation perhaps traceable to the fact that his feet were simply attired in striped socks. He hurriedly and noiselessly led the way to the dining-room; we sat down, so did he. He was elderly, stout, and very untidy, his striped feet writhed bashfully away under his chair in a spiral twist like a mermaid's tail. The interrupted newspaper was clutched in a tremulous hand, and

over it an eye of extreme embarrassment and unquenchable amusement peered intermittently at us.

We entered, full-sailed, on our mission, gathered impetus as the old truths were trotted out, rising even to enthusiasm as the fighting instinct woke. When we had perorated, Mr. Brown, using his newspaper as a Spanish lady uses her fan, emerged from what we believe to have been convulsions of laughter, and stated that he would probably not vote at all; that, as a matter of fact, he never did. His eye rolled with almost agonising consciousness of absurdity, whether his own or ours we could not determine. A very stern parlourmaid here entered, extracted from a coal scuttle behind us a pair of slippers, and handed them coldly to Mr. Brown. The mermaid's tail was uncoiled, the striped socks were housed in green Brussels carpet, and Mr. Brown retired again behind the newspaper. Thus hidden, he informed us, in a series of giggles, that what we had said was very interesting, and that there was a gentleman two doors off, and another at the end of the road, who would be very glad to hear what we had to say. After this he sank again behind the newspaper, and we took our leave. To the last he was excessively friendly, and madly, mysteriously amused.

We proceeded to the house of the gentleman who lived two doors off, and endured a considerable probation on the doorstep, while that sense of taking a liberty, that is the torture of the amateur canvasser, became the only idea in the universe. The lady of the house appeared; her step was noiseless as Mr. Brown's, by reason of a debased variety of tennis shoe, noiseless even as those of the avenging deities, who are shod with felt; to our feverish eye her hand seemed to be broad and flat from long chastisement of the young. She regarded us and our bundle of pamphlets with a strange, uncertain friendliness, and informed us that her husband was up at Mr. Smith's Committee Room, adding that an agent's work was very trying this 'ot weather. Mr. Smith was not the candidate in whose cause our conscience had driven us to take the field, and the gentleman whom Mr. Brown had sent us to convert was his agent.

Our most immediate instinct was flight, our second was to go back to say a few words to Mr. Brown, whose sense of humour was obviously of a robust and practical type; finally we said we would go to Mr. Smith's Committee Rooms, and make enquiries about the other gentleman at the end of the road whom we had been advised to visit. When, subsequently, we found that he also was one of Mr. Smith's agents we were compelled to a grudging admiration for Mr. Brown. Determined to emulate in some humble degree his peculiar form of humour, we conferred upon the agent's wife a bundle of anti-Smith literature, and retired in the direction smilingly indicated by her. The door did not close; we glanced back through the railings, and saw the agent's wife in the act of opening the pamphlets and discovering therein the cloven hoof. It was a recompense for many days of toil.

Throughout the remainder of that long and blazing day, dining-rooms and drawing-rooms, offices and consulting-rooms, were our portion. The wax flower and the glass shade heard our mature opinions about the state of Ireland, our valuable views as to the most crying needs of the Empire. It is painful to have to state that in those days we were younger than we are at present, yet the organisers of our party—a party that, like all others in those days, would have become hysterical at the suggestion of allowing us to vote—had no scruples in despatching us and our playfellows to instruct elderly professional gentlemen upon the affairs of the nation.

The heat of a peculiarly gorgeous July was prisoned in those smug and stereotyped sitting-rooms, it stood in beads on the bald pates of our pupils, and the flush of battle deepened from hour to hour in our cheeks, till it became more and more difficult to present our case with calm to the opponent. It was the last of those strenuous, unchaperoned days of canvassing. On the morrow the voters would go to the polling booths, and we and our fellow instructresses were requested to betake ourselves to the woman's kingdom, our respective homes. The tired hireling pony took us back to the inn, along the level roads of East Anglia; we packed our trunks, and wrote labels for Cork and for Galway.

It would have been as easy to foresee the motor, that was to supersede the white pony, as to dream of the gay and resolute procession of pilgrim women now marching to London over those very roads, and over many another road, not to ask for votes for others, but to demand them for themselves as their birthright.

At a Suffrage Meeting.

(OVERHEARD BY S. MACNAUGHTAN.)

YOU may wander for hours in a crowd and get very little amusement out of it, or you may hit quite suddenly upon a "character"—a man or a woman racy of speech and ready to expound his or her views to whoever stands nearest.

Yesterday the man with whom I rubbed shoulders was collarless and almost in rags; his pockets hung down empty and with a hungry look about them, and his patched boots had the hard stiff look which leads one to suppose that the peculiar walk of the wayfaring man is due to unyielding leather. He was pouring his opinions into the ear of one more seedy than himself. The collarless man had too fine an air about him to be called seedy-looking; even as a tramp he would be something of the king of the road, and one could imagine him acting in the capacity of first politician round a hopper's fire in Kent. Incidentally, he smoked a clay pipe which required relighting on an average once in five minutes. He spoke to the seedy gentleman, whom he had probably that moment met for the first time, as to an old and familiar friend.

"I've been in 'undreds o' demonstrations—been in the 'ole bloomin' crowd of 'em—Eight Hours System, Local Option, Unemployed—an' I beat the drum for General Booth wunst when 'e was openin' a new barracks down Norfolk w'y; but I never 'ear better bands nor this, never—this is the best band ever I 'eard."

"It beats me," said the seedy gentleman, "'ow they gets bands."

"Hobsternacy," replied the man of no collar. "That's wot does it! They'll git anything through their hobsternacy."

"They come over the men," said the seedy gentleman. "I've no doubt they came over the men in order to get these 'ere bands."

He took out a tobacco box from his pocket, glanced at it to see if it contained anything, shook out a few crumbs on to the palm of his hand, and replaced the box in his pocket with a sigh.

"This partickler band is fust class, an' I ought to know; I'm musical. I never 'eard better except the Salvation Army."

"They should 'ave 'ad the Salvation bands 'ere," replied his friend; "they would hev done 'em a treat."

"Bleshyer, they couldn't be got to play worldly toons such as we be 'earin' now. It would be 'ims, 'ims, and nothing but 'ims. That's 'ow you can allus tell 'em. I can tell a Salvation band wiv me eyes shut."

"Do you think there will be raows an' rotten heggs?" said the seedy gentleman, showing some spirit, and a gleam of something like hopefulness in his face for the first time.

"I'm afraid we can't 'ardly expect it. Look at all the perleec about. Wot's that goin' to cost England in order that civilisation may be maintained."

A boy on the edge of the crowd—"Nooger for women, a penny a cike. Mrs. Pankhurst on a pocket-handkercher, one penny."

"Women ought to be at 'ome doin' the washin'," said the man, whose entire stock of linen would not have taken a great while to wash.

"Do you think we will hev a chence to 'ear them speak?"

"Not much! We cawn't get near 'em. Do you come from Scotland? It was the wye you said chence instead of chawnst as made me harsk. Sussex? Now wot do you make of politics down there? I'm for the King myself, and Lawd Charles Beresford—'im as tried to rescue Gordon the time Lawd Sir Donald Stewart and Lawd Colonel Burnaby was killed."

"That was a bit of all right!"

"Wars now; wot can a woman do to 'elp dooin a time of war—I arsk you that."

"Sime 'ere."

"I should say they ought not to 'ave the vote till they can 'andle a rifle and 'elp in a war."

"Same as us."

A protesting female voice—"Can't women help in war, and didn't South Africa prove it?"

"You go 'ome an' get the ole man to work for you, and bring 'ome 'is wages Saturday nights." The man without a collar straightened himself; in his mind there seemed to be some unexplained contempt for wage-earning, due perhaps to his artistic temperament.

"Don't you want women to have the vote?"

"Well, confidenshully, and speaking between you and me, my girl, I 'opes they won't."

"Why not?"

"Why not? Look 'ere, they've got law on their side already, and I don't know wot more they want. Why, you can't 'ardly 'it a woman now but wot you may 'nt get a month without hoption of a fine."

A gentleman in the crowd, very well dressed, and probably a member of Parliament, come to number the army of the Suffragists: "Why should you want to hit a woman?"

The collarless man: "Sir, can you 'elp 'itting a woman when she aggravates yer?"

He turned and winked at the seedy gentleman and remarked: "That's settled 'im!"

"Mind I don't talk personally, so to speak," he went on. "I've a good wife, wot's brought up twelve. Wot's more, I've been out of work this long time, but she's see'd to it that I 'ad a 'ape'orth of shag every day, and sixpence to spend on Sundays."

Female voice truculently: "What about the old man working for his wife, eh?"

"Well, I'll stick to my opinions, and my instink is ag'inst women interfering."

The band strikes up again, and the procession of Suffragists marches past.

The collarless gentleman: "My, wot bloomin' bricks they are, after all! And they 'ave the best band—"

Da capo.

Further Thoughts of a Mother.

Someone nearer at hand will probably have anticipated me in expressing the thanks of readers of THE COMMON CAUSE to the writer of the beautiful and sympathetic article, "A Mother's Reverie" (May 30th). Yet, tender and true as this picture of the solitary watcher by the deserted hearth is, it does not contain the whole truth. It is surely rare that a mother of the type pictured fails to find and fill a real place in the households of her sons and daughters, and does not gather beneath her own roof and her special charge the little lives which offer such rich renewal of opportunity for ministration. She stands between the past and future generations, linked by the most sacred ties of grateful love—the memory of a mother's part and presence in her own early days of marriage and home-making, and the sweet, constant claims of her own young home-makers on her sympathy. There are, we may hope, few mothers whose loneliness is unmitigated by these divine consolations.

Nevertheless, and when all these compensations are gratefully recognised, there remains in "A Mother's Reverie" a poignant lesson which hardly needs emphasising for those to whom the women's movement means something far deeper and wider than a mere political reform. The whole end and purpose of a woman's existence is not summed up in motherhood, although without it we may deem her finest realisation incomplete. Humanity precedes and transcends maternity and even womanhood; and that humanity demands its individual fulfilment in woman, as in man. The soul which abdicates all self-direction and purpose in life declines to the level of a parasite; and it is the parasite woman who has degraded the dignity of her whole sex.

The pestilent doctrine that woman's sphere is rightly limited by the four walls of her home (a doctrine which, when applied to man, produces a Scrooge, with no perception of the truth that *mankind was his business*), is responsible not only for the cramping and contraction of her own nature, but also of those whom she must train and inspire. The tragic emptiness of the evening of a woman's life—when deprived in the course of nature of the daily domesticities which were never meant to usurp her entire energies—is surely a revelation and a warning. Our life's current (of character, effort, habit) cannot, in middle life be diverted from the channel it has made for itself, and started in an entirely new direction. It must flow onward (if it is not to stagnate) in the course rendered possible by familiar use. This is why men's lives are less apt than women's to be wrecked by sorrow. They must work, following the habit of life, while women, too often, need only weep. Does this never occur to intelligent men, themselves keenly in touch with life at many points, who feel a positive objection to their wives actively interesting themselves in work outside their domestic duties?

If motherhood be indeed—as is so constantly impressed on us—the most potent education in life, how deplorable it is that the fruits of such training should never be carried beyond the garden in which they ripened, but should run to waste when that garden becomes tenantless.

E. C. OSLER.

Bermuda, June 13th, 1913.

Who are these Women?

On Saturday, they are meeting in Hyde Park—women from North, South, East, and West, who have been tramping the roads, some for days, some for weeks, some for nigh on two months, carrying the message of hope and freedom for women through town and city, hamlet and remotest village, to the capital of the Empire.

Who are these women?

What have they been doing it for? What is it all about?

The anti-suffragists say: "These must be wealthy, idle women; no working-woman could spare the time to walk hundreds of miles for women's suffrage! This proves that it is just a few rich women who want the vote." What can we reply?

Well, it is, of course, true that the very poor woman,

The slum-dweller, the sweated-worker,

could not possibly afford to take this way of showing her desire for the vote. Indeed, she is too much occupied in the heart-breaking struggle of trying to keep the wolf from the door, even to lift her eyes to the dawning light to which the happier woman points.

For example, there will be Glasgow women in Hyde Park. In Glasgow there are

32,000 single-room tenements

—32,000 women, each trying to rear a family under hopeless conditions of over-crowding, inconvenience, indecency, lack of sanitation. Will any of those women be demonstrating? No! How could they? But the other more fortunate Glasgow women will be there because they have seen and know these things, and are determined to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves. Then there will be women from Staffordshire. Go to Hanley, Burslem, and the other pottery towns, and you will see women old before their time—women with dropping wrists, utterly helpless hands, toothless, with torturing, swollen ankles, chronic sufferers from pains in head and chest—women who take it for granted that four of every five babies they bear will never breathe—dragging themselves to work, because the few shillings compensation the law allows to the poisoned worker, often enough a widow, is not sufficient to buy bread for her and her children.

Will these women be in Hyde Park?

It is not likely. But there will be women there who know them, who have seen their lives, and who can never rest till the burden of poverty and suffering is lifted from the shoulders of their sisters.

So the women are coming from every county, from every district, voicing the needs, the sufferings, the hopes of the women whose very poverty and misery keep them silent. But

What good will a vote do these women?

Why, the very fact that they have votes will make it impossible for any future Parliament to disregard their needs. When candidates ask men to vote for them, they do so on the ground that they, if returned to Parliament, will improve the conditions of those men's lives, and help them to get the things they most urgently desire. Well, when the time comes, as it soon will, that they have to ask women to vote for them, they will have, for the first time, to consider: "What do the women want? What do the women need? Would any man dare to ask for the votes of a great body of sweated women without offering to try and improve the conditions under which those women worked?"

At present, the needs of the women are *not* considered as are those of the men. Did not Mr. Harold Spender, in the "Daily News and Leader," the other day describe the existence of 2½ millions employed women, for the most part under-paid, badly fed, exposed to every kind of physical risk and moral temptation, as

"An unexplored problem,"

and "the state of sickness and poverty amongst these women" as "an appalling revelation of past neglect!" Why "unexplored"? Why "neglected"? Could such a problem remain "unexplored" if the 2½ million women had political power?

Experience seems to show that it could not—for the women of California, when they had no votes, suffered as our women suffer here. But the very first Parliament

Returned by the votes of women as well as men

is finding it necessary to explore them, and it has already appointed a commission to investigate the conditions of women's work, and to secure for them a living wage in any industry where it is not yet given.

That is why the women are coming! Some of them have suffered themselves, but more have seen the sufferings of others. They come to demand for women that political power which alone can make impossible in the future

"The appalling neglect"

which has been their lot in the past.

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LAST DAYS OF THE PILGRIMAGE.

In the Midlands Pilgrims have been meeting with a rough reception, very different from the kindly welcome extended to them in most of the Northern towns. Police protection in some places has been disgracefully inadequate, several suffrage speakers at St. Neots being actually thrown to the ground, trampled upon, and their lives endangered.

Rural districts have for the most part proved friendly, or at worst apathetic, but in some country towns of the West parties of roughs have broken up the meetings—the same band appearing in different places, which seems to point to the fact that they were organised for the purpose. Several reports have reached us of threatening language used at meetings held by Anti-Suffragists before the Pilgrims arrived, and careful inquiry is being made into the matter.

Nothing can exceed the magnificent spirit in which the Pilgrims met all the dangers and hardships of their way.

ON THE GREAT NORTH ROAD.

PILGRIMS MAKE THE MIDLANDS TREMBLE.

"What's wrong with the Midlands?" writes Miss Wilma Meikle, our correspondent from the Great North Road. "The great towns

and other speakers put before them the case for Women's Suffrage. In the villages, too, a remarkable courage was shown."

HUNTINGDON MEN FEAR WOMEN'S INDEPENDENCE.

In Huntingdonshire, writes Miss Meikle, there are not enough wives, not because women are scarce but because the men of the district are unpopular as husbands:—

"So the men of that shire are fearful lest the women grow yet more independent. Down with the Suffragists! Huntingdon knew how to deal with them. Round the kitchen table, which we were using as a platform, was massed a group of schoolchildren, booing and shouting, and a few carefully-instructed hecklers were on point duty behind them. Mrs. Rackham (who had just joined us with the Fen route contingent) and Miss Beaver were both able to speak at length, however, and the meeting would have been continued by Miss Norma Smith and others had not the police insisted on ending it. One constable and a superintendent were obviously too small a force to cope with any real trouble, but the uproar was entirely caused by the children and some musical youths, and beyond the breaking of a leg of our table and the loss of a mackintosh we had no trouble whatever."



THE MEETING AT EXETER.

[S. A. Chandler & Co., Exeter and Southampton.]

of Northumberland, Durham, and Yorkshire, with only two exceptions, gave us a royal welcome and thronged to our meetings, listening always with courtesy and interest, usually with sympathy, and often with enthusiasm. But the country towns of the Midlands trembled at our approach. At Newark three unarmed women stood alone on a lorry, assailed by the violent rushes of some three thousand men, and a storm of missiles hailed about them. A trembling magistrate, braving the presence of the terrible trio, implored the crowd to be calm. "These women," he assured them, "will not hurt you!"

Evidently, the men of the Midlands take panic when the lusty little band of Pilgrims enters their market-towns, and several thousand of them take their lives in their hands and go forth to repel the invasion. We learn, however, that:—

"Oundle recovered its balance when it beheld the Pilgrims supported and encouraged by some of its leading citizens, in spite of the fact that those ubiquitous worthies, Mr. H. B. Samuels and Mr. Godwin (who are Mr. Samuels and Mr. Godwin?) were seen in the market place shortly before the meeting affixing to a wall with their own fair hands the curious legend, "Women do Not want votes." And Thrapstone, to be sure, is a town of heroes. It was market day when the invasion came, and the farmers stood their ground not only without perceptible trembling, but even with cheerful approbation and applause, while Miss Norma Smith

DISGRACEFUL SCENES AT ST. NEOTS.—INADEQUATE POLICE PROTECTION.

At St. Neots, pilgrims had a most unpleasant experience, the motor from which Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Mirlees, and Miss Gordon attempted to speak being surrounded by a yelling mob of roughs. The police then decided that they were powerless to protect them, and as there seemed to be every probability that the car would be wrecked, Mr. Mirlees drove the speakers away to a place of safety. The mob then rushed to the box where Miss St. John had just succeeded in gaining the attention of the very small respectable element. Booing and shouting now began here also, and the police inspector came up to say that the meeting must be stopped at once, as the crowd intended to duck the Pilgrims in the river, and he could not prevent them.

"If you do not prevent them," said one of the Pilgrims, "I will have a question asked about you in Parliament. It is your duty to protect us." The inspector visibly quailed under this threat, and at once gathered his men round the platform. But the roughs (and a more degraded, ruffianly-looking mob were never seen in any part of England) were rapidly gaining in force and excitement. A dozen times they succeeded in hurling Miss St. John from her box. A dozen times she regained it, and attempted to speak. Once as she struggled from under the feet of the hooligans she was heard to gasp out,

"They are only playful," and a small group in the crowd cheered her courage.

PLUCK OF THE PILGRIMS.

"There were five of us," writes Miss Meikle, "standing round Miss St. John, and we were almost all knocked down, at least once, and trampled on. A woman in the crowd bravely tried to help us, and was thrown down almost immediately. The writer was hurled on the top of her, and, unable to rise, could not discover for some time whether the woman under her were dead or alive. The two Miss Westwoods, better known as Tweedledum and Tweedledee, who have been in the thick of every riotous meeting since we left Yorkshire, sat on the box and tried to hold it down for Miss St. John, but were forced away by the mob. Miss Gordon's glasses were broken in one of the onslaughts, and she was unable to see an inch in front of her, and Miss Beaver, who, left in our hotel to recover from a bad headache, rushed to our aid as soon as she heard the tumult, was on the ground, bruised and kicked by the hooligans, for several minutes. Even at such a moment she could appreciate the humour of the situation when Tweedledee was heard crying to her plaintively, 'Do get up!' Eventually the police were able to get us away to our hotel, where they had to mount guard for nearly two hours while the rabble booted and shouted and stormed in the street outside. It was a relief to find that Mrs. Rackham and Mrs. Mirlees had been got away safely at the close of the first meeting, but several of our supporters in the crowd, who were left quite unprotected by the police, were considerably bruised."

"St. Neots is the first place where we have to make serious complaint of the conduct of the police, and here we complain, not of the constables, who did their best to look after us as soon as their superior allowed them to do so, but of the inspector, who treated us with considerable insolence, and only protected us when threatened with a question in Parliament. Hitherto the police have looked after us with almost fatherly care, both in the north and in most places in the Midlands."

THE "ANTIS" IDEA OF FAIR-PLAY.

We learn that everywhere the "Antis" have been active, and we are inclined to hold them responsible for the active hostility which has been displayed. Miss Meikle reports:—

"In the evening we marched to Letchworth in time to find those strange leaders of a forlorn hope, Mr. Samuels and Mr. Godwin, upholding masculine rights in the market-place. Some of the Pilgrims spent an entertaining hour heckling them. Mr. Samuels appealed for fair play. But Mr. Samuels has been preceding us all the way from the North, and we ask why it is that in these country districts where the Suffrage question is not yet understood unruly meetings follow his footsteps. On Saturday night Mr. Samuels was declaring that National Union Suffragists were "as dangerous" as the militants. One can easily understand what construction would be put upon such a phrase in the nervous Midlands. Has Mr. Samuels given us fair play? And can any student of politics explain why it is that in three or four towns the same ruffianly character (not, of course, a member or official of the N.L.O.W.S.) has been seen heckling our speakers and leading the disturbances?"

CHIVALRY NOT QUITE DEAD.—A CHAMPION TO THE FORE.

It is a pleasant change to be able to record a successful meeting, held at Sanday, at which Mrs. Rowland Prothero and Mrs. Mirlees addressed a very friendly crowd. But at Potter considerable numbers of the population appeared to be drunk—although it was not yet seven o'clock—and surpassed even the hooligans of St. Neots in the variety and obscenity of their vocabulary. Only two policemen were present, so it was necessary to bring the meeting to a premature end. We learn that:—

"The mighty man of muscle, who recently rescued two National Union speakers from a hostile crowd at Bedford by carrying off one under each arm, fleeing with them over the housetops (surely, in the days when the history of the Suffrage agitation is adorned with legends, this hero will trample on an Anti-Suffrage dragon on a coin?) was with difficulty restrained from whipping off his coat and slaying his hundreds on our behalf, and the pilgrims retreated in good order to the station, whence they departed to Bedford for the night."

A PEACEFUL SUNDAY.

On Sunday three special services were arranged for the pilgrims, at which excellent addresses were given on the women's movement, and in the afternoon Miss Beaver and Miss Gordon addressed a large and very friendly audience in Howard Park.

BY NO MEANS DAUNTED.

We give at full length the concluding sentences of Miss Meikle's report, because they sum up the experiences not only of Pilgrims on the Great North Road, but of those journeying by other routes. Each band has met with some success and some calamity. Gay episodes have been interwoven with grave, and everywhere alike the travellers have been quick to see the humours even of the most unpleasant situation. An adventure has been defined as "an inconvenience taken

in the right spirit"—and in this sense the Pilgrims are true adventurers.

"The posters, 'Women do Not want Votes,' still accompany us on our pilgrimage. Bruised and aching bodies tell a different tale. The first uproarious meeting may have a spice of adventure in it, and even the second and third; but the fourth or fifth, at the end of a long day's march, is scarcely amusing. Nor is it very entertaining to be rushed again and again by a half savage, brutal-looking mob like the one at St. Neots. For the speakers, who bear the brunt of the whole pilgrimage, it is especially trying. When one finds women walking, as Miss Beaver, for instance, has walked, practically every step of the way from Newcastle, and making at least one speech, and that usually the principal speech each night, there is something almost pathetic about Mr. Samuel's flaming posters. And if those Pilgrims who join us for a mere handful of days sometimes complain of our frivolity on the road, may we not claim that our work at night is serious enough to justify a little light-heartedness during the day?"

WATLING STREET PILGRIMS.

AWAKENED INTEREST IN THE CAUSE.

It is pleasant, after the unfortunate experiences of the Pilgrims on the Great North Road, to be able to record a succession of comparatively peaceful meetings held along the Watling Street route. Last week, Pilgrims on this road left the Black Country and the densely populated Pottery towns for a rural district, where our correspondent reports that the Pilgrims leave behind them "an awakened interest in the Cause, which will make for good results in the future."

At Solihull, two meetings were held, the one at mid-day arousing so much interest that another was arranged for the evening to take place simultaneously with that at Knowle, which was addressed by Miss Muriel Matters. Next day the Pilgrims arrived at Warwick, where they were met by Lady Willoughby de Broke, who presided over a meeting of some 3,000 people. Mrs. Harley reports:—

"We then marched in procession, headed by a band, to Leamington, the whole route being lined by interested onlookers, and many of the Warwick people following on with us. A big crowd awaited our arrival, and another meeting was immediately started, the Hon. Mrs. Hanbury in the chair, and Miss Watson and Miss Leadley-Brown speaking. Here an organised band of young hooligans somewhat disturbed the proceedings, much to the disgust of many who wanted to hear the speakers. At the close there was some attempt to mob the pilgrims by these disorderly young men, at which the Leamington people openly expressed their regret."

At Stratford, Pilgrims paid honour to the poet whose imagination created so many noble women, by placing a wreath upon his grave. This was carried at the head of the procession, which marched through the town, creating much interest. A large meeting was afterwards held at the Fountain. Unfortunately, a rowdy element prevented the speakers from being heard at the principal platform, but at the other the crowd listened with much attention.

RECORD GATHERING AT KINETON.

At Kineton, the Pilgrims were most hospitably entertained by Lord and Lady Willoughby de Broke, and one of the largest gatherings that Kineton has seen listened with great attention to Miss Margaret Ashton and Miss Muriel Matters. There were, however, some interruptions.

On Friday, the route lay over Edge Hill, a steep ascent at the top of which the Pilgrims had their mid-day halt, and found the villagers there most sympathetic:—

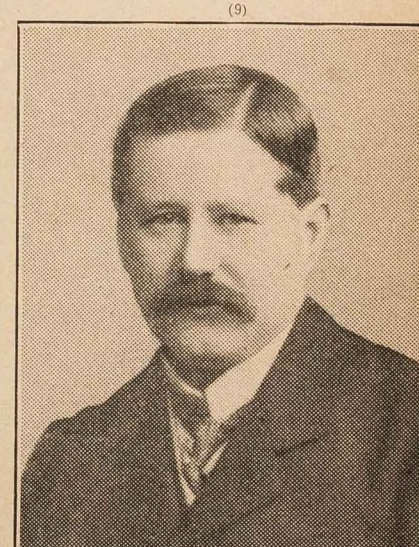
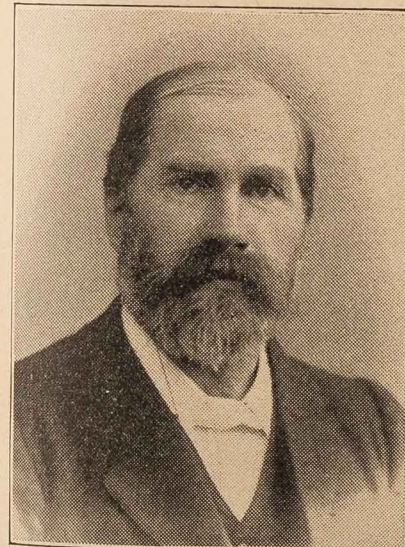
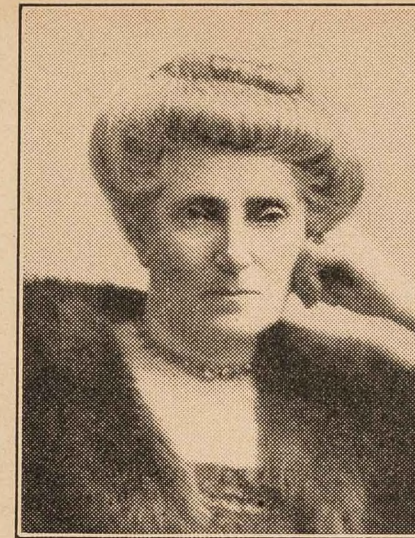
"A practical proof of this was shown by a woman in charge of a tower, from which a fine view of the surrounding country was gained, and a small fee made to tourists. This fee she refused to take from the pilgrims in order that the pence might go into the collecting-box."

GOOD RECEPTION IN OXFORDSHIRE.

At Drayton, the Pilgrims passed into the area of the Oxford, Berks., and Bucks. Federation, and were met by Miss Dora Mason, who has organised the remainder of the march. After tea at the Vicarage a small meeting was held, and a procession formed to enter Banbury, where a large audience listened to Miss Ashton and Miss Mason in the Town Hall, while other speakers addressed the crowd outside. On Saturday, there was a long march to Oxford, where the Pilgrims spent the week-end. Several motor-cars were lent, and the local society put a brake at the disposal of the walkers, so that any who liked might obtain a lift. At Banbury, some of the lads in the crowd were rather rowdy, but our correspondent reports that on the whole the reception of the Pilgrims in Oxfordshire has been very friendly:—

"The villages received us very heartily, and we held small meetings wherever we could. At Sturdy's Castle Inn a group of men excursionists began to jeer on our first arrival, but after speaking to them and explaining that we were the law-abiding women who were marching all over England to tell the people of our constitutional demand for the vote,

PERSONALITIES OF THE PILGRIMAGE.



(1) Miss E. C. Somerville, of the brilliant partnership of "Somerville and Ross," the authors of "Experiences of an Irish R.M." and of a delightful sketch in the COMMON CAUSE Special Pilgrimage Number. They send us a message—"Success to the Cause and the COMMON CAUSE." (Photograph by Elliott & Fry.) (2) Mrs. Harley, who first brought the idea of a huge combined march on London before the National Executive Committee. We dare not say she "thought of it first," because so many people did that! (Photograph by Andrew Hunter.) (3) Mrs. de Fonblanque in the uniform of the "Qui Vive Corps." Mrs. de Fonblanque invented the march of propaganda, and walked from Edinburgh to London last year. She is the founder of the "Qui Vive Corps." (Photograph by A. H. Fry.) (4) Miss Willcocks, the distinguished novelist, author of "The Power Behind," "The Way Up," "The Wingless Victory," &c., who has addressed several meetings, and marched a great part of the way. She says, "I would have marched from Land's End, but that Suffragists do look after their homes, and I had an invalid to nurse." (5) Mrs. Fawcett, President of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies (with 450 Societies and nearly 50,000 members), who has been responsible for organising the march of the eight great contingents into and through London. (6) Miss Philippa Strachey, Secretary of the London Society within the National Union, and the Established and Free Churches, who addressed the Pilgrims at various points of their journey. (Photograph by G. P. Abraham.) (7) Canon Rawnsley, the first of many clergymen, both of whom marched practically the whole way from her home in Keswick. Her husband (then Sir George Kemp) introduced the Suffrage "Conciliation" Bill, in 1912. (8) Lady Rookdale, who has been in England to tell the people of our constitutional demand for the vote, and spoke at a "Pilgrimage" meeting in support of the Cause. (Photograph by Elliott & Fry.)

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they became most respectful and interested, and finally drove off wishing us success, and each of them wearing a N.U. badge which they had bought."

A correspondent from Oxford reports a "fine, yet at moments a noisy meeting":—

"The Town Hall (holding, they say, 2,000) was crowded to the back of its galleries. The pilgrims marched in in order to fill the platform and orchestra seats. Alderman Hall, in the chair, spoke first; then rose Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, the vigorous Secretary of our Men's League, and every Oxford Suffragist felt angry when a little group of ill-disposed men in a corner started to howl him down, and even succeeded in making some of his excellent speech inaudible. Later, Miss Ashton—called upon by the audience for a speech—held the great meeting spell-bound, save for bursts of loud applause. We went home inspired."

"Sunday, 20th, dawned cool and pleasant, an ideal rest-day. But tired pilgrims mustered in plenty at 5.30 in the ancient church of St. Peter in the East, for our special service, at which the vicar, Dr. Skrine, then gave a most inspiring address."

VETERAN SUFFRAGIST WELCOMES PILGRIMS.

On Monday, the procession with its banners left the Martyrs' Memorial for Thame, being joined by many Oxford friends behind their own N.U. banner. Passing through St. Clement's, where many of the rougher population of Oxford lined our route, our correspondent writes:—

"We met with few unkind words. One elderly gentleman, who almost at once disappeared into a public-house, was understood to offer advice about 'the baby'; but he was somewhat inaudible, and we forgot him when we reached the next group, mainly of draggled mothers, as one of these, lifting up her wee boy, said to a passing pilgrim: 'I want for him to see this, 'cause I 'opes he'll grow up a Suffrage one.' At length we marched in order, singing as we went, into the pretty garden of Miss Florence Davenport Hill. That aged Suffragist, to whom we offered a bouquet of roses of the colours, received us at the door, but at the entreaty of the pilgrim leaders came to 'stand under our banner and make us very proud.'"

WEST COUNTRY ROAD.

GOOD SEND-OFF FROM BRISTOL.

West-country Pilgrims had a good send-off from Bristol, being accompanied as far as Brislington by a band and many local sympathisers, the bearers of one banner representing three generations—a little girl of seven, her mother and grandmother. At Brislington two impromptu meetings were held, the Rev. C. P. Wilson and Mrs. Streeter addressing a large and attentive audience, while Mrs. Hicks and Mrs. W. C. H. Cross spoke to another, and succeeded in gaining their ear in spite of a certain hostile element in the crowd. Another very satisfactory meeting was held at Keynsham, with the Rev. Canon Talbot in the chair, and Miss Sterling as speaker.

MOBBED BY HOOLIGANS AT BATH.

Distributing leaflets by the way, the Pilgrims pressed on to Bath, where a meeting was held in the working-class district of Tiverton. Alderman John took the chair, and Professor Kemp and Mrs. Streeter spoke. The resolution was carried, but when the meeting broke up some of the Pilgrims were badly mobbed by hooligans. Miss Tanner was knocked down and much bruised, and Mrs. Cross had to escape, disguised in a man's coat and hat, from the back of a house in which she had taken refuge. Nevertheless, the Pilgrims marched out of Bath next morning with banners flying, accompanied by many sympathisers.

BAND OF ROUGHS IN WILTSHIRE.

Miss Baretti and Mrs. Hicks report unpleasant experiences in Wiltshire, which seem again to point to the work of the "Antis," as the same band of roughs has appeared in different places.

"Wiltshire has not exactly received us with open arms. True, we have met with some real hospitality—at Corsham, for instance, Dr. and Mrs. Crisp invited us to a sumptuous tea, and at Box Lady Hobhouse entertained some of the pilgrims to lunch. But a band of roughs pursued us from place to place and rendered meeting impossible. At Chippenham we were indebted for our safety to a police charge, which kept back the mob sufficiently for us to reach our hotel. "Sweet Calne in Wiltshire" proved even more unpleasant. At the evening meeting Mr. Carpenter, the Chairman, and Miss Sterling made valiant attempts to speak, but were hooted down. The police again took prompt and efficient measures, surrounded the wagonette, warded off the rushes, and saw us into the police station, where we waited till it was safe to leave for our rooms. Miss Sterling, the best known of us, acting on the strong advice of the police, left disguised in a uniform!"

On the other hand, some of the smaller meetings have been excellent. At Corsham, the influence of Dr. Crisp secured an excellent hearing for Miss Walker and Miss Sterling; and another impromptu meeting at the cross-roads, a short distance outside the town, was addressed by Miss Baretti. A meeting arranged in Marlborough was, however, broken up by a gang of roughs, the same apparently as before. The Pilgrims grouped themselves on the steps of the Town Hall, while a strong body of police kept a small circle clear in front. Miss Sterling and Miss Walford tried for over half-an-hour to make themselves heard, but were obliged to desist. The Pilgrims retired to the Town Hall, and their place was taken by a drunken old fellow who called out to the crowd, "I'm your friend," and waved his hat in triumph. The police and some of the College masters who, with their wives, had attended the meeting, acted as an escort. Miss Baretti, who had some distance to go, walked down Marlborough High Street under the protection of her host, seven policemen, and the town crier—England's champion crier, too!

FEELING OF THE COUNTRY NOT UNFRIENDLY.—OPPOSITION STIRRED UP BY "ANTIS."

In spite of the rough treatment met with, the organisers of this part of the route gained the impression that the district is by no means unfriendly:—

"The charming hospitality of the Marlborough Society made amends for our lost meeting. The police did their best for us, they even rescued our van—empty luckily—from the river into which it had been pushed by the hooligans. During the week about 230 people have joined as 'Friends.' The breaking up of the meetings is hardly a fair estimate of the feeling of the county as there is little doubt that it was the work of the same gang of roughs in different places, and the Anti-Suffragists, who preceded us every night, did their best to embitter feeling against us by insinuating that our claim to be 'non-militant' was not grounded on fact."

HOOLIGANS APPEAR AGAIN AT CHELTENHAM.

At Marlborough, the main body of Pilgrims was joined by a contingent from Gloucester, which had come via Cheltenham, Cirencester and Swindon. After a very successful meeting at Gloucester, our correspondent reports a good deal of hostility along the route:—

"Clarence Street (Cheltenham) meeting ground was thronged with hooligans, whom Mr. Chas. Fox (former Labour candidate for Tewkesbury Division) described as the worst crowd he had ever seen. Mrs. Swiney, the President of the local Society, the Rev. J. H. Smith, and Mr. Fox, all made gallant attempts to get a hearing, but in vain. Rotten eggs and cabbages soon began to fly, hats were torn off, and but for the police, who acted splendidly, the brake used as a platform would have been overturned. The Gloucester banner narrowly escaped destruction, and two cyclists were badly mobbed in Regent Street. Two working men who protected the cyclists were seriously knocked about."

In spite of this rough treatment, the Pilgrims proceeded most energetically with canvassing in every town and village through which they passed. At Cirencester:—

"The people seemed friendly and even enthusiastic, and hopes for the evening meeting were high. But when it began ten students from the Agricultural College ('for the sons of gentlemen!') organised a rag, and with the aid of some hooligans, a bell, and a drum, rendered speech utterly impossible. Mr. Ainsworth (Swindon), Miss Hadlow (Cirencester), and Mrs. Swiney (Cheltenham) did their best, but the clamour was too great. After the meeting the brake was pursued and nearly overturned, and when the Pilgrims sought refuge in a cottage, the students threatened to burn the house and duck the Pilgrims in the canal. Luckily here the police intervened. At Swindon a splendid meeting of about 2,000 people assembled, and the Rev. J. Ivory Cripps, Mr. Ainsworth, Miss Blackstone, and Councillor George had a good hearing, though on the outskirts the hooligan element made nasty rushes, and Miss Gills was mobbed for the second time in two days. Next day Miss Blackstone, Mr. Ainsworth, and Miss Mills walked the twelve miles to Marlborough, and joined the main body of Pilgrims from the Land's End."

BERKSHIRE GIVES AN EXCELLENT RECEPTION.

The Pilgrims arrived in Hungerford on Saturday, having been preceded on Friday night by an Anti-Suffragist who, addressing a small and unenthusiastic audience, had assured them that although the ladies who were coming to speak said they were not militant, yet they were in sympathy with militant methods, and added that she "hoped the crowd would not injure them." In spite of this provocation the crowd, of about 800 people, which assembled on Saturday night proved most friendly and peaceable.

Miss Eustace reports that:—

"Hungerford has not seen such a large meeting before on any question. This friendly little town is an unrefined borough, very proud of itself, and of its High Constable and Trustees, most of whom attended the meeting, as did also Captain and Mrs. Burmester from Newtown, and Mrs. Goodhart from Inkpen. Miss Sterling, Mrs. Ramsay, and Miss Walford had a splendid hearing, and after the official meeting was closed they were severally surrounded by small crowds of people, who engaged in an animated discussion which lasted for over an hour, and might still be in progress if our speakers had not been in the end too weary to continue. About thirty 'Friends' cards were signed, and more have come in since. A large amount of literature was distributed, and fifty COMMON CAUSES sold."

Pilgrims are asked to read this Advertisement carefully.

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Advertisement for 'DARN NO MORE!' featuring 'Holeproof Hose' and 'NEW HOSE FREE'. Includes an illustration of a hand holding a hose and a list of colors and prices for various socks. Text: 'If they are not "Holeproof" we will give you NEW HOSE FREE. "V. & H." Holeproof Hosiery is British made from a specially manufactured yarn lighter in weight, tougher and stronger than any other. So pliable, it gives to continued pressure and wear, is not thick and clumsy, but smart, luxuriously comfortable, shapely and well made. There is hardly any spring or elastic stretch in ordinary hose, and this accounts for the rapid appearance of holes. TRY THEM FOR TWO MONTHS.—Then if within that time a hole should appear, send them back at once with our Guarantee Ticket which is sent with every pair we sell, and we will present you with a new hose without extra cost. The comfort and pleasure of good wearing hose to men conveys a sense of well-being and satisfaction all day long, while to business girls and busy housewives, to whom the weekly darning is a long and tiresome task, the benefit is incalculable. Many of the officials of the "Common Cause" have worn our Hose, and are highly satisfied with it. Price—Two Pairs of Gent's Socks, 2/10, post ad. Two Pairs Ladies' Stockings, 3/10, post ad. Colours: Gent's—Grey, Fawn, Tan, Drab, Purple, Navy, Dark Blue, Navy, Green and Black. Ladies'—Grey, Brown, Sage Blue, Navy, Champagne, Tan and Black. SLIP HOLEPROOF sold under same guarantee as above. Two Pairs of Gent's Socks, 7/6, post ad. Two Pairs of Ladies' Stockings, 10/6, post ad. Colours: Ladies'—Black, Navy Blue, Empire Blue, Pearl Grey, Purple, White, Champagne, and Tan. Gent's—Black, Navy, Pearl Grey, Tan, and White. VAUGHAN & HEATHER, LTD. (Dept. 208), The Mail Order House, Queen's Rd., BRIGHTON.

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EAST COAST ROUTE.

Pilgrims from Southwold report numerous successful meetings, excellent organisation, and kind hospitality on the part of local Societies, and a sympathetic attitude among the general public. At Wickham Market, writes our correspondent, Miss Waring:—

"Everything had been arranged for our reception by Lady Rendlesham. She had taken rooms for us all as her guests at the local inn, and an 'At Home' was arranged on the premises, to which all the villagers were invited."

"On the way to Woodbridge, we held small meetings at Ufford and Melton—where Lady Mary Cayley took the chair. As we entered Woodbridge, with banners flying, to take up our position on the market square of Woodbridge, we were met by a line of grammar-school boys arm-in-arm. They fell in behind us, and sang us up to our destination, rousing the whole town on the way. A crowd of about 800 assembled. The boys seem to have had whistles, and were prepared to whistle us down; but they had a series of shocks. Firstly, a policeman said to one: 'Have you ever seen the inside of a prison cell?' 'Yes, I have.' 'Well, you may be seeing one again soon if you don't take care.'"

"The next shock was the picturesque appearance of Mrs. Vulliamy, who did not look as if she hailed straight from the Zoo. The third shock was when the boys noticed the presence, apparently as a sympathiser, of a local colonel, a hero of many medals. No one had the courage to start the whistling, and several of the boys, who stood apart from the others on the right of the lorry, and who were evidently confirmed Suffragists, nodded their heads in emphasis of special points at their hostile comrades opposite, and were evidently chuckling at the course of events."

At Ipswich, the Pilgrims received a hearty welcome and cordial hospitality from local Suffragists, and crowds came to see them pass:—

"For the second time since our start we had an indoor meeting, one of the most enthusiastic I have ever been at. When the resolution was put, nearly every hand in the hall seemed to go up."

"On Friday morning there was a service for us at St. Margaret's Church, and at 11.30 we assembled at Barrack Corner, where short speeches were delivered before the start was made."

Good meetings are reported at Dedham, Ardleigh, and Colchester, from which towns a large contingent marched out to welcome the Pilgrims:—

"In the evening we had a large open-air meeting—a very sympathetic one. There was one single untoward incident—an egg, not rotten, which bespattered the speakers, and roused the audience to a howl of indignation. Mrs. Alderton was in the chair."

Miss Waring thus sums the impressions of the Pilgrims from Southwold:—

"The Pilgrimage, so far, has been interesting in many ways. Some of the remarks one hears are very funny. A little boy came up to Mrs. Vulliamy and said, wisely: 'I don't blame you.' Our thanks for hospitality and help are due to so many people that it seems impossible in the rush of work to thank all. May we thank all through the columns of THE COMMON CAUSE? We feel that on the East Coast route we are being specially pampered."

EASTERN COUNTIES CENTRAL ROUTE.

After a good send-off from Norwich at the beginning of the week, and successful meetings at Wymondham and Attleboro', Pilgrims along the Eastern Counties Central Route entered Bury St. Edmunds:—

"At Bury St. Edmunds between two and three thousand people were on the Cornhill, and an inner-ring of some six hundred listened attentively. There were signs of rowdiness, but not of sufficient importance to hinder the speakers for a moment. Dr. Ernest Stork was in the chair, and Mrs. Heitland and Mrs. Cowmeadow spoke. A large number of COMMON CAUSES were sold."

On the 17th, three village roadside meetings were held at Icklingham, Mildenhall, and Tuddenham. The audiences in all cases being friendly. The subject was almost entirely fresh to them. The speakers were Miss O. J. Dunlop, Mrs. Cowmeadow, and Miss Garlick. On the 18th, a meeting was held at Burwell, and addressed by Mrs. Rackham and Mrs. Cowmeadow, Miss Garlick in the chair; and on the 19th, the Pilgrims were met at Barnwell Junction, two miles out of Cambridge, by members of the Cambridge Society.

DEMONSTRATION IN CAMBRIDGE.

We have received the following communication from Miss F. Johnson:—

"The Pilgrims from the East Coast reached Cambridge on Saturday, bringing much cheerful news. A few members of the Cambridge W.S.A. met them at Barnwell Junction, as well as some frolicsome undergraduates, whose attentions were of assistance in advertising their arrival. Meantime, the main body of the C.W.S.A., reinforced by a goodly number of Girton and Newnham students in white, were forming up on Midsummer Common, and on the arrival of the Pilgrims a procession of over three hundred persons marched through the principal streets to the cheering strains of the Sawton Silver Band, and accompanied by a vast crowd of spectators, whose overflow into the streets enhanced the impression of strength and force given by the legitimate marchers. The Cambridge banner was carried in front by Miss Thomas, of Girton, assisted by a male sympathiser. Next walked the Vice-Presidents, the Misses M. G. and J. Kennedy, followed by an imposing group of dons, including Dr. Bethune-Baker, Professor of Divinity; several of the moral sciences faculty, Professor James Ward, Dr. MacTaggart, Mr. W. E. Johnson; the Rev. Carpenter (Selwyn); the Rev. C. J. N. Child, Head Master of the Boys' County School; Mr. Kellest, Assistant Master of the Leys School; Mr. Layton, Lecturer in Economics; Mr. Arthur Berry, Fellow and Tutor of King's College; Mr. Vulliamy. Among the well-known women were the Hon. Secretary, Mrs. James Ward, the President, Mrs. Heitland, Mrs. Muirless, the

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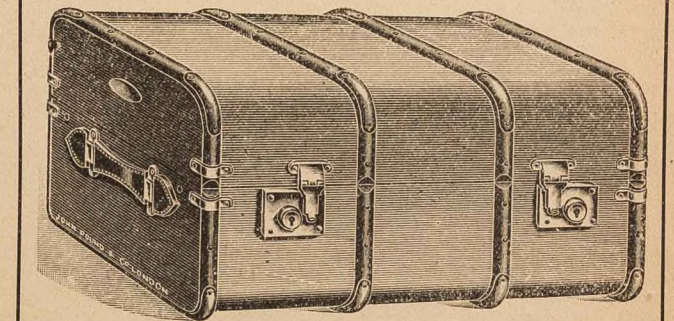
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E.C.F. Organisers, Mrs. Kellet, Hon. Secretary of the E.C.F., Mrs. Vulliamy, Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Rootham, Mrs. Ramsay, Mrs. Layton. "In the absence of college secretaries during the Long Vacation, it was impossible to beat up members of the University Men's League, but a few solitary undergraduates joined the march, and were of assistance in protecting the Newham contingent from some boisterous youths in the neighbourhood of Mount Pleasant on their way back from the procession, which came to an end in Mrs. Ramsey's garden in Huntingdon Road. Here a short meeting was held, and the Pilgrims then dispersed to the houses of their hosts. On Sunday a most impressive and beautiful service was held in the Small Guildhall, when an address was given by Dr. Bethune-Baker, and a Litany of Intercession for the Cause was read by Mr. Carpenter (Selwyn) to a gathering of some three hundred persons.

PEACEFUL KENT.

From North Kent comes welcome news of a series of successful meetings held all along the route; at some of these there was an audience numbering thousands of people. The speakers included Miss Courtney, Mrs. Stanbury, Mrs. Ruth Young, Mrs. Rackham, Mrs. Venning, Miss Mercer, Miss Talmer, Mr. Bart Kennedy, Miss Griffith Jones, and the Rev. T. M. Tamplin. Among the Chairmen have been Canon Hornsley, the Rev. Baird Turner, Councillor Tapp, Mr. H. W. Clouting, and Mr. Bray. Our correspondent reports:—"At Rochester thirty to forty Pilgrims marched to and from the Cathedral, and afterwards received a kind message of encouragement from Dean Storr. Much interest was aroused by the Pilgrims, numbers of people accompanying them in the damp and under umbrellas, and except for the throwing of dirt by hooligan children—and a jug by an adult—the North Kent Pilgrims have fared well, and feel that their work is already bearing fruit."

COURTEOUS HEARING IN THE SOUTH.

Our correspondent, Miss K. Ward, reports that South Kent has given the Pilgrims a most courteous hearing:—"At Folkestone we received a good deal of heckling from a large but not inspiring audience; nevertheless an auditor, who proclaimed himself a Quaker, came forward spontaneously and said how in all their undertakings women were equal with men, and how helpful they found it. In the evening we marched to Cheriton, where we held a splendid meeting. The crowd of about 700 was entirely sympathetic, and the owner of the lorry from which we spoke refused to take more than half the original price, saying that the speeches were well worth half his charge! On Wednesday a dozen or so marched to Sandgate, and on Thursday Mrs. Henry Kingsley presided again at Saltwood. On Friday a large and attentive audience listened to Miss Cooke at Hythe, but perhaps the best meeting of all was at Ashford on Saturday. There was an enormous gathering, and Miss Cooke's speech was excellent, and the audience gave her a rousing cheer when she finished. The help given us at Folkestone by the Society, and by members who are spending their holidays in the town, must be gratefully acknowledged."

PORTSMOUTH ROAD.

Portsmouth gave the Pilgrims a splendid send-off on the 17th. An enormous crowd collected in the Town Hall Square, and listened with interest to Miss Norah O'Shea, and many local supporters, who explained the object for which the Pilgrimage was undertaken. A large number of the townspeople accompanied the Pilgrims on their first stage to Cosham. During the march to Petersfield next day, Miss O'Shea held three impromptu meetings, and the Petersfield Society turned out splendidly to welcome the Pilgrims, bringing them in through crowds. The meeting in the Market Square in the evening was much interrupted by small boys and irresponsible hooligans, who would not let those who had come to listen do so.

At Liphook the local Society provided lunch-tea, and:—"An outdoor meeting took place at three, the Countess of Selborne coming from London and leading the start towards Haslemere, via Hammer, Bottom, and Shutter Mill. At Hammer a Haslemere contingent met the procession with the Institute Band, marshals, COMMON CAUSE sellers, literature distributors, and collectors. Mr. Aneurin Williams presided at an open-air meeting at Haslemere, at 7, when Miss Ruth Young and Miss O'Shea spoke."

From Bournemouth, also, a good start is reported, great crowds lining the march through the streets to Christchurch. This march was organised by Mrs. Rowe, and Miss Clough gave great assistance by lending her car and showing hospitality.

At Ringwood, where tea was provided by Mrs. Pennington, and hospitality shown by members of the local Society, a successful meeting took place in the morning, with the Rev. A. Pennington in the chair, and Miss Mitton, Miss Clough, and Mr. Lyon as speakers. Next day, at Lyndhurst, a large open-air meeting was held, with Miss Bateman in the chair. Miss Clough and Mrs. Herne addressed an interested audience, and many intelligent questions were asked.

Mrs. Dempster, organiser of the Portsmouth route, writes:—"The meeting at Alton was a very great success. An enormous crowd assembled in the Market Place at 12 o'clock, and listened with very great attention to an excellent speech from Miss Fielden, followed by one equally good from the Rev. T. D. Carter, Vicar of All Saints. We had a really splendid reception at Alton, a large collection, and many 'Friends of Suffrage' cards signed, as well as members enrolled. After lunching at Froyle Place, on the kind invitation of Mrs. Summers, we came on to Bentley, where another meeting was held."

PILGRIMS FROM BRIGHTON.

ATTITUDE OF SUSSEX NON-COMMITTAL.

Brighton Road Pilgrims started on Monday, Lady Maud Parry, President of the Brighton and Hove Society, leading a procession of

over one hundred. The local banners were prominent, as were those of Ford and Littlehampton. Seaford and Worthing were also represented. The crowd which gathered to see the start was neither sympathetic nor particularly adverse. Hearty greetings cheered the Pilgrims here and there; lowering glances met them now and again; but on the whole the attitude of Sussex folk was non-committal. Over the beautiful down-land roads the Pilgrims made good progress. At Burgess Hill, where they were joined by the Eastbourne contingent, they were kindly provided with tea by Mr. T. A. Meates, who had previously met them, and taken some of the more weary in his car. After this, the first meeting was held, and passed off very successfully, over sixty friends being enrolled, and a Suffrage resolution carried nem. con. The speakers, the Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell and Mrs. Timpany, were introduced by Mrs. Meates.

Our correspondent writes in glowing terms of the care which has been expended by those responsible for the comfort of the Sussex Pilgrims, and of the enthusiasm which brought many friends from a distance to ensure the success of the start. Among the male sympathisers who walked part of the way were the Rev. T. Rhonda Williams, Mr. H. Vickery, and Mr. Cannaford, of the Central Sussex Society. Lady Johnston, Mrs. Auerbach, Miss Rawlings, and Miss Crossfield were with the Pilgrims throughout the day of the start.

Song of the Suffrage Pilgrims.

A good heart and a steady mind,
Our purpose clear in view,
And we will show our country now
What women folk can do.
From Land's End by the blue sea coast,
From far beyond the Tweed,
We march that all the countryside
May know the women's need.

CHORUS:—

And shall they scorn the women's voice
When we for justice cry?
We're marching in our thousands now
To know the reason why.
Outspoke our leaders every one,
A goodly band were they:
"We claim the right to serve our land,
And who shall say us nay?"
And we have heard our country's call,
Can we stand idle by?
If still we may not serve, we come
To know the reason why.

CHORUS.

What do they fear who hold us back,
Who number half the race?
Do we the needful courage lack
To fill a worthy place?
The sex that toils in home and mill
That shares their smiles and tears,
The sex that graced our country's throne
For half a hundred years.

CHORUS.

From West and East we gather now,
But one in purpose set.
Oh! ye who need the women's vote,
We'll be victorious yet.
Then join the women of our land
And march with us to-day,
Come one and all, a dauntless band,
And who shall say us nay?

CHORUS.

Latest News from the Routes.

Late telegrams from the Great North Road Pilgrims announce much better meetings and most successful speeches. The Anti-Suffragists still precede them, but can get no women helpers to speak or even distribute leaflets. At Stevenage—the only place where there was any trouble—Miss Gordon got the "rowdies" to her platform, while Miss St. John and Miss Beaver held a splendid meeting elsewhere. The Antis discovered this at last, and rushed off to stop them; whereupon Miss Gordon held a meeting herself.

We hear from the Watling Street Pilgrims that their meeting at Thame was spoilt by an organised gang of 200 rowdies. The next day a small party was detached from the marchers and remained behind to hold another meeting, which proved a great success. Mrs. Harley and Miss Eskridge were the speakers, and the resolution was carried. One hundred "Friends" cards were signed.

Hospitality for Pilgrims.

The Members of the Emerson Club, 19, Buckingham Street, Strand, have very kindly offered to put the Club at the disposal of Pilgrims, on July 25th and 26th, and from 2.30 to 8.30 on July 27th. (Lunch, 1s. and 8d.; tea, 6d.) Will those who wish to have lunch or tea on either day kindly inform the Secretary?

The Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, St. James's, S.W., have kindly arranged to welcome as temporary honorary members ladies who are on Pilgrimage. The Club is near Piccadilly Circus, in a very central position.

THE ENTRY INTO LONDON.

Friday, July 25th.

THE PORTSMOUTH ROAD PILGRIMS assemble

10 a.m. **Richmond Green**, and march to
11.30 a.m. **Barnes Common** (Corner of Roehampton Lane). Thence by
Hammersmith Bridge, to
12.30 p.m. **Ravenscourt Park**. Meeting.
1.30—7 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
7 p.m. Assemble, Brook Green, and march *via* Hammersmith Road to
8.30 p.m. **Kensington Town Hall**. Meeting.

WEST COUNTRY ROAD PILGRIMS assemble at

10 a.m. **Richmond Green**. Thence *via* Kew Road, Chiswick High Street
and King Street to
12.30 p.m. **Ravenscourt Park**. Meeting.
(Route thence as above—Portsmouth Road Pilgrims.)

WATLING STREET PILGRIMS.

10 a.m. **Assemble Townsend Road**. March *via* Hanwell, West Uxbridge
Road, Ealing Broadway, Ealing Mall to
12.30 p.m. **Meeting**, Ealing Common.
1.30—4.10 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
4.10 p.m. **Assemble Ealing Common** (North Common Road). March to
5.15 p.m. **Birkbeck Road**, disband.
5.15—6.45 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
6.45 p.m. **Assemble Blomfield Road** (Uxbridge Road, near Wood Lane).
March *via* Notting Hill High Street.
8.30 p.m. **Meeting**, Ethical Church Hall, Queen's Road.

GREAT NORTH ROAD PILGRIMS.

11 a.m. **Assemble Barnet Green**. March to
1 p.m. **Meeting**, Tally-Ho Corner, Finchley.
2—3 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
3 p.m. **Assemble Tally-Ho Corner**. March *via* Archway Road to
5 p.m. **Tollington Road**, disband.
5—7 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
7 p.m. **Assemble Tollington Road**. March *via* Holloway Road to
8 p.m. **Meeting**, Highbury Hall.

EAST CENTRAL COUNTIES.

10 a.m. **Assemble Enfield Highway** (end of Southbury Road). March to
12. **Meeting**, Cross Roads, top of Stamford Hill.
1—2 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
2 p.m. **Assemble Cross Roads**, Stamford Hill. March *via* Lordship
Park, Seven Sisters Road to
4.30 p.m. **Tollington Road**, disband.
(Rest of day same as Great North Road.)

GOLDER'S GREEN, HAMPSHIRE, EAST AND WEST ST. PANCRAS.

1 p.m. **Meeting**, White Stone Pond, Hampstead Heath.
3 p.m. **Assemble White Stone Pond**. March *via* Haverstock Hill,
Camden Road to
5 p.m. **Tollington Road**, disband.
(Rest of day same as Great North Road.)

EAST COAST PILGRIMS.

11.30 a.m. **Assemble Manor Park** (Station Road, Romford Road).
March to
12.30 p.m. **Meeting**, Stratford Broadway.
1.15—2.15 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
2.15 p.m. **Assemble Stratford Broadway**. March *via* Stratford Road,
Mile End Road, Commercial Street to
4.30 p.m. **Toynbee Hall**, disband.
4.30—7.30 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
7.30 p.m. **Assemble Toynbee Hall**. March Commercial Street to
8.30 p.m. **Meeting**, Tower Hill.

KENTISH PILGRIMS.

10.30 a.m. **Assemble Whitfields Mount**, Blackheath. March *via* Dept-
ford Broadway to
12. **Meeting**, Pepys Road, New Cross Gate.
1—6.30 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
6.30 p.m. **Assemble Pepys Road**. March *via* Old Kent Road, Elephant
and Castle, London Road to
8.30 p.m. **Meeting**, King's Hall.

BRIGHTON ROAD PILGRIMS.

10 a.m. **Assemble Katherine Street**, near East Croydon Station. March
via Norbury to
12.30 p.m. **Meeting**, Streatham Common, South Side.
1.30—3 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
3 p.m. **Assemble Streatham Common**. March *via* Streatham Hill to
4.15 p.m. **Meeting**, corner of Ruschcroft Road, Brixton Rise.
5—5.30 p.m. Rest and refreshment.
5.30 p.m. **Assemble Canterbury Road** (Brixton Road). March *via*
Brixton Road to
6.15 p.m. **Meeting**, Kennington Park.

Saturday, July 26th.

Portsmouth and West Country Road Pilgrims: Assemble 2.30 p.m. at
Warwick Gardens (Kensington Road, opposite Addison Road). March
via High Street and Kensington Gore, through Alexander Gate to
Hyde Park.

Watling Street Pilgrims: Assemble 2 p.m., Elgin Avenue (Maida Vale
end). March *via* Maida Vale, Edgware Road, Oxford and Cambridge
Terrace, Sussex Place, through Victoria Gate to Hyde Park.

**Great North Road, East Central Counties, and Golder's Green and
Hampstead Pilgrims**: Assemble 2 p.m., Montagu Place, Bloomsbury.
March *via* Tottenham Court Road, Oxford Street, and Marble Arch to
Hyde Park.

East Coast, Kentish, and Brighton Pilgrims: Assemble 2.30 p.m.,
Trafalgar Square. March *via* Cockspur Street, Pall Mall, Waterloo
Place, Piccadilly, and Hyde Park Corner to Hyde Park.

5 P.M. DEMONSTRATION IN HYDE PARK.

The official programme will be published in our second edition.

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Coats & Skirts (Costume Department). Few remaining, this season's styles; beautiful models, in Navy and Black Coating Serges. **Final Sale Price 55/6**
In Cream Serge .. 68/6

White Washing Skirts. (A small number only.) Well-cut, hand-finished, newest styles, high or ordinary waists. In Drill or Cotton Poplin **Final Sale Prices from 4/9**
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Size .. 3 x 2 3 x 3 yds.
Usual Price .. 8/11 11/9
Final Sale Price 4/11 5/11

Blouse Suits. (Rapidly being cleared.) This Season's, well-made in newest styles, some at LESS THAN HALF PRICE. In Zephyr, Navy Serge, and Cotton Voile. **Final Sale Prices from 8/11**

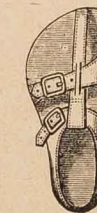
Hosiery. Pure Silk ANKLE HOSE in Black and Colours. Usual Price 3/11. **Final Sale Price 2/11**
Fine White Thread SPENCERS, open neck, short sleeves. Usually 3/1 1 **Final Sale Price 2/11**

Shoes. Glacé Kid COURT and One-Bar DRESS SHOES, point or medium toe, excellent value. **Final Sale Price 4/11 1/2**
Jet Beaded COURT SHOES, perfect fitting. **Final Sale Price 7/6**
Glacé Kid OXFORD SHOES, pointed and medium toe, excellent value. Usual Price 10/9. **Final Sale Price 8/11**

Household Linens. Fine Double wrap Egyptian Cotton Sheets for single and double beds, twilled or plain, ready hemmed. Four sizes. **Final Sale price from 9/11** per pair

Cretonnes. 100 pieces of Fast Colour Cretonnes in 22 different colourings 31 in. wide. Suitable for Upholstery, Loose Covers and Curtains. Usual Price 1/3d. **Final Sale Price 6 1/2d.**

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Notes from Headquarters.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.
 President: MRS. HENRY FAWCETT, LL.D.
 Hon. Secretaries: Miss K. D. COURTNEY, Miss C. E. MARSHALL (Parliamentary), Miss EMILY M. LEAP (Press), Miss G. EVELYN ATKINSON (Literature).
 Hon. Treasurer: MRS. AUERBACH.
 Secretary: MISS CROOKENDEN.
 Offices: Parliament Chambers, 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, S.W.

For the benefit of new readers, we give some notes on the object and methods of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The Union, which is the largest and oldest of all the Suffrage societies, demands the franchise for women on the same terms as it is or may be granted to men. Founded in 1867, it now numbers over 42,000 members, and its 443 branches, organised into 16 Federations, are distributed over England, Scotland, and Wales. Those Parliamentary divisions in which no Society exists, are worked by the Federation in whose area they lie. In 1912 the Union raised £40,000, which was devoted to educational propaganda and political work, on purely constitutional lines. The Union has never sanctioned violence of any kind, and has repeatedly passed resolutions expressing the conviction that its use in political agitation was both wrong in itself and harmful to the cause in which it was employed.

The colours of the National Union are red, white, and green, and its official organ is THE COMMON CAUSE, published every Friday, price 1d. Full details of the work and policy of the Union may be obtained on application to the Secretary, at 14, Great Smith Street, Westminster.

There is so much Pilgrimage news this week, that it has been found necessary to hold over the very long list of Special Offerings. The total up to date amounts to £5,931 2s. 6d. It is made up of sums varying from 6d. to £500, and includes among other interesting contributions 4s. from an old-age pensioner; 2s. 6d., the result of a conversation with an Anti; 15s., collected by Tony and Peter, great-grandsons of John Bright, "to help mothers to get the vote." Money is still coming in, and we expect to announce a much larger amount at the Demonstration on Saturday. Please help to swell the total by sending a donation to the Treasurer, N.U.W.S.S., 14, Great Smith Street, S.W.

Service in St. Paul's Cathedral.

The afternoon service in St. Paul's begins at 3.15. It is advisable to go early, in order to ensure getting seats, for the service is usually very largely attended. Several members of the Executive and others will go together from Trafalgar Square, and any Pilgrims who care to join them are invited to meet in the Square at 1.45. They are asked to wear the hat-badge and sash in the colours.

Ethical Church.

In connection with the Suffrage Pilgrimage, a special Service will be held next Sunday evening at seven o'clock, at the Ethical Church, Queen's Road, Bayswater, to welcome the Pilgrims. Miss Maude Royden, Editor of THE COMMON CAUSE, will speak on "The Pilgrim Spirit," and a reception will be held at the close of the Service in the Lecture Hall. Seats at the Service will be specially reserved for persons who apply to the Hon. Secretary of the Church by Saturday morning. The Pilgrims who enter London by the Watling Street route are holding a mass meeting at the Church on the preceding Friday evening at eight o'clock, when Miss Margaret Ashton, of Manchester, is to be one of the speakers.

Flying for Pilgrims.

Through the good offices of Mrs. Hinscliffe and the kindness of the Directors of the London Aerodrome Co., 100 tickets, each admitting two persons to the Hendon Aerodrome, will be placed at the disposal of the Pilgrims on Monday next. Applications for them should be made to the National Union.

Literature Department.

A new stock of ribbon in the colours has now been received. The prices are 9d. per yard, 1 1/2 inch width; 10d. per yard, 1 3/4 inch width. A new poster (quad crown) has been issued, advertising the fact that "Women in the Colonies" use the vote "Well and Wisely." The price of this is 4d.

(For hospitality offered, see foot of page 278.)

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News from the Societies and Federations.

West of England.

BRISTOL—June 25th—Meetings at Knowle—Speaker, Miss Tanner. Same date at St. Paul's—Speaker, Mrs. W. C. H. Cross. June 26th—Chessells—Speaker, Miss Tanner. July 5th—St. Agnes' Men's Class—Speaker, Miss Barrett. July 9th—Totterdown—Speaker, Miss A. M. Clough—Chair, Mrs. Vaughan Price. July 9th—St. Agnes—Speaker, Miss Barrett. A garden meeting was held on June 12th by kind permission of Mrs. T. L. Pearson, at Glenfield, Down's Park West. Mrs. Harold Hicks and Miss Ford gave a delightful rendering of that amusing dialogue, "A Chat with Mrs. Chickery." A sale of produce and putting competitions were other attractions. Altogether £9 11s. was taken.

Eastern Counties.

IPSWICH—June 26th—A sale of work organised by this Society resulted in £3 10s., being sent to the Federation funds. Mrs. Vulliamy gave an address on the Pilgrimage.
 NORWICH—June 5th—Meeting at St. Olaves—Speaker, Dr. Mary Bell. June 10th—Members' meeting—Speaker, Miss Waring. June 19th—Garden meeting for associate members—Hostess, Mrs. E. B. Theatricals. July 12th—Open-air meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Cowmeadow, J. W. Mirrilles, Esq. July 13th—Meeting of Pilgrims at the Friends' Meeting House. July 14th—Open-air meeting at Eaton—Speaker, Mrs. Cowmeadow.
 WOODBRIDGE—On July 16th the Pilgrims from Yarmouth became the guests of Colonel and Mrs. Byers, Mrs. M. H. Rowland, Mrs. A. Arlott, and Mrs. M. B. Rowland. In the evening a large open-air meeting was held.
 WICKHAM MARKET—A very wet but cheerful party arrived here on July 15th, and were entertained by Lady Rendlesham. A good meeting was held at the White Hart, and members came from adjoining towns to swell the throng.
 MALDEN—June 16th—A meeting was held at the Rubic Hall—Speakers, Lady Betty Balfour, Miss Pope—Chair, Lady Rayleigh.
 BURY ST. EDMUNDS—At the meeting in the Cornhill, on July 16th, Mr. E. Stark explained that the Pilgrimage marching from Cromer to London were law-abiding citizens. Mrs. Hutland and Mrs. Cowmeadow also spoke.
 IPSWICH—July 17th—A band of Suffragists, including several members from Felixstowe, assembled on St. Margaret's Green at 4 o'clock. Accompanied by a decorated wagonette and two carriages, a procession of about eighty, bearing banners, marched out to meet the Pilgrims from Woodbridge. In the evening a meeting was held at the Corporation Hall, the speakers being Miss Pope, Mrs. Vulliamy, and Miss Waring. On Friday, the 19th, after morning service at St. Margaret's, the Pilgrims left for Didham. Many Common Causes were sold yesterday while the procession was en route.

West Riding.

SHEFFIELD—Open-air meeting by Pilgrims on July 5th at 7.30 p.m. at Snig Hill. Two platforms—Speakers, Miss Muriel Matsons, Miss Beaver, Miss Burgess—Chairmen, Mr. J. Wycliffe Wilson, J.P., Mr. Thatcher (I.L.P.). About 3,000 people present, and all Common Causes available sold. Police arrangements excellent.
 WAKEFIELD—Three speakers' classes have been held by Mrs. Renton. Pilgrims came through Wakefield July 2nd and 3rd. Tea was provided for them by the societies at Oatwood on the 2nd, and an open-air meeting held. The speakers were Mrs. Donkersley d'Thomas and Miss H. Burgess. Crowded open-air meeting at Wakefield in the evening, some hoodlumism at the close, but majority of the audience was sympathetic. Service at 9.30 on July 3rd, kindly arranged by the Rev. J. S. Love, addressed by Canon Welch (vicar of Wakefield).
 LEEDS—On July 17th the Misses Ford gave a Women's Suffrage garden party at Adel Grange. No other societies have reported this month. All have been working for the Pilgrimage, and the progress of the Pilgrims through our Federation was fully reported by Miss Melkie in last week's C.C.

North Eastern.

EDMONDSLEY—Near Chester-le-Street—June 30th—Open-air meeting—Speaker, Miss Sheard. Resolution passed.
 PELLIN FELL—Lodge of the Durham Miners' Association on July 1st. Addressed by Miss Sheard.
 HENDON HOLD—July 2nd—Lodge of the Durham Miners' Association—Speaker, Miss Sheard.
 WEST PELTON—Near Chester-le-Street. The Twigg Lodge of the Durham Miners' Association—Open-air meeting on July 3rd—Speaker, Miss Sheard.
 WATERHOUSES—July 5th—Speakers, Miss M. Robertson, Mr. John Gray—Chair, Mr. Macdonald. Collection, 15s. Many Friends' cards signed.
 PELLIN AND PERKINSVILLE—July 6th—Working Men's Club—Speakers, Mrs. Black, Miss Sheard.
 SPENNYMOOR—July 7th—Members' afternoon meeting—Speaker, Miss M. Robertson. One new member. Four dozen Common Causes sold. Joint meeting with I.L.P. in the evening—Speakers, Miss M. Robertson and Miss Dring—Chair, J. Royston, Esq., President of Trades and Labour Council. Collection, 11s. 9d.
 GATESHEAD—July 7th—Dunsmore Grove Sisterhood, addressed by Miss Sheard.
 GRANGE WILDA—Near Chester-le-Street—Joint meeting with I.L.P. July 7th—Speakers, Miss Sheard, Councillor J. Lawson.
 BARNARD CASTLE—July 4th—Mrs. Well's drawing-room meeting—Speaker, Miss M. Robertson.

THE COMMON CAUSE.

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING—July 6th—Meeting at the White Lion—Speaker, Miss M. Robertson.
 RYOPE—July 8th—Members' meeting—Speaker, Miss Sheard.
 CROXDALE—July 8th—Joint meeting with I.L.P.—Speaker, Miss Dring—Collection, 3s. 3d.
 HEXHAM—Members' meeting at Abbey Hotel—Speaker, Miss M. Robertson.
 SUNDERLAND—July 9th—Open-air meeting at Roker—Speaker, Miss M. Robertson—Chair, Councillor R. J. Wilson, prospective Parliamentary candidate for Chester-le-Street Division.
 SLEETBURN—July 10th—Joint meeting with I.L.P.—Speakers, Miss Dring, Mr. G. T. Harrison. Collection, 5s. 3d.
 STOCKTON—July 10th—Open-air meeting for members—Speakers, Miss M. Robertson.
 TUDHOE COLLIERY—July 10th—Joint meeting with I.L.P.—Speakers, Miss Dring, J. J. Thompson, Esq.
 SHILDON—July 11th—Open-air meeting—Speaker, Miss M. Robertson.
 SEAHAM HARBOUR—July 12th—Members' meeting—Speaker, Miss Sheard—Chair, Mr. Jennings.
 FRAMWELLGATE MOOR—July 12th—Joint meeting with I.L.P.—Speakers, Miss Sheard, Mr. Binney.
 SPENNYMOOR—July 14th—Joint I.L.P. meeting at Pagebank—Speakers, Miss Dring, Mr. Stoddart. 22 Common Causes sold. Collection, 8s. 1d.
 WALDRIDGE—Near Chester-le-Street—July 14th—Open-air meeting—Speaker, Miss Sheard—Chair, Mr. Peet Cross.
 BISHOP MIDDLEHAM—July 16th—Joint meeting with I.L.P.—Speakers, Miss Dring, Mr. Solomon. Collection, 2s. 5d.
 URPATH—July 16th—Lodge of Durham Miners' Association—Speaker, Miss Sheard.
 NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE—July 15th—Meeting of North-Eastern Federation Committee at 27, Ridley Place.
 ATMA LODGE—July 17th—Durham Miners' Association meeting—Speaker, Miss Sheard.
 NEW WASHINGTON—July 18th—Labour meeting of Women's Suffrage—Speakers, Miss Sheard, Councillors W. P. Richardson, William Smith—Chair, Mr. Tom Kirtley.

Kentish.

ROCHESTER—June 21st—Speakers, Miss G. Smith-Jones, Miss Christabel Ward, and local Suffragists. Six new members enrolled. Fifty Common Causes sold. Collection, £2 7s. 7d.
 SEVEN OAKS—June 11th—Speaker, Fru Anker. Twelve new members enrolled.
 TUNBRIDGE WELLS—June 19th—Garden party at Clare Lodge—Speakers, Miss Ward, Miss Moseley—Chair, Madam Sarah Grand.
 BEMBURY GREEN—July 7th—Open-air meeting—Speaker, Mrs. Stanbury—Chair, Mrs. Perkin. A successful meeting in breaking new ground.
 TUNBRIDGE WELLS—July 9th—Public meeting in Town—Speaker, Miss Geraldine Cooke—Chair, Miss Anna Martin, B.A.
 CANTERBURY—July 10th—Fifteen members joined the rally and marched with banners through the city, attended service and open-air meeting after.

News from Other Societies.

The W.S.P.U.

Mrs. Pankhurst was rearrested on Monday afternoon while attending the weekly meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union at the London Pavilion. As on previous occasions, the usual mêlée took place between the police and the militants and their supporters, but all attempts at rescuing Mrs. Pankhurst failed, and she was conveyed to Holloway Prison. On the evening of her mother's rearrest Miss Sylvia Pankhurst appeared on the platform at the Bromley Public Hall. She has been released, since her sentence at Bow Street, under the "Cat and Mouse" Act. At the close of the meeting a scuffle ensued with the police, but no effort was made to detain Miss Pankhurst, who appeared to be in a very weak state of health.

The Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

The Men's League were, we understand, responsible, with the Actresses' Franchise League and the Federated Council of Suffrage Societies, for the ardent and energetic support for the Scottish Ballies' repudiation to Mr. Asquith on Friday last (July 26th). Ballie Pratt, Ex-Provost Parry, Ballie Aiston, Councillors Barry, Crawford, and Bruce Lindsay, with Ballie Murray, the "Father of the Edinburgh Council," were among those who travelled to London to see the Prime Minister, at the suggestion, we understand, of Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett. Mr. Asquith's intention of returning in even larger numbers later on.
 Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, has no intention of allowing the matter of the Scotch Ballies to drop. Mr. Mitchell is determined to push the point. He points out that no deputations of men (other than Members of Parliament) has ever been received by Mr. Asquith on the subject of Women's Suffrage. Further, Mr. Mitchell appeals to all men interested in this important question to communicate with him at once in order that his Committee may have all possible support in any further action they may take.

The Penal Reform League.

The Penal Reform League has sent the following resolution to the Prime Minister and other prominent politicians:—"The Executive Committee of the Penal Reform League, having in view the discredit brought on law by what is known popularly as the 'Cat and Mouse Act,' and the injury inflicted thereby on the cause of penal reform, hereby expresses its conviction that when a prisoner who is in prison for conscience' sake brings himself by hunger-striking or similar self-discipline to a state of health which, in the opinion of the medical officer of the prison in which he is confined, endangers his life, then justice and humanity demand that he be released unconditionally."

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The Bishop of London has just accepted this moving tale.

By Mrs. HUGO AMES, who writes with authority as a member of the International Private Commission and Hon. Secretary of White Rose League.

Will 300 or more friends send Mrs. Ames one penny towards publishing the 1d. pamphlet, an answer to Mrs. Billington Greig, condensed from her speech given every night last week at the Lyric Theatre, Hammersmith. The editor of the English Review, up to now, is giving no reply.

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Forthcoming Meetings.

London.

- JULY 25. Stamford Hill—Cross Roads—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Richardson and others. 12 noon. New Cross—Pepps Road, New Cross Gate—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Stanbury (Executive Committee, N.U.W.S.S.), Miss Goddard, and others. 12 noon. Ravenscourt Park—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Sterling, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Miss O'Shea, Miss Sterling. 12.30. Ealing Common—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Rev. Templeton King, Miss Watson, Mrs. Abbott. 12.30. Stratford Broadway—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Royden, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G., and others. 12.30. Streatham Common—South Side—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Merrifield, Miss Dawson, Mrs. Rawlings, Mrs. Conybeare. 12.30. Finchley—Tally Ho Corner—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Philippa Fawcett and others. 1.0. Hampstead Heath—White Stone Road—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Ward and others. 1.0. Brixton—Corner of Rushcroft Road, Brixton Rise—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Ward, Miss Fielden, and others. 4.15. Kennington Park—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Stanbury (Ex. Committee, N.U.W.S.S.), Miss Helen Fraser, Dr. Drysdale, Mr. S. Pascall. 6.15. Kennington Road—Sancroft Street—Speakers, Miss W. G. Jameson, Miss Gladys Rinder. 8.0. Highbury—Highbury Hall—Meeting—Speakers, Mrs. Corbett Ashby, Mrs. Oliver Strachey, Mrs. Gillingham, M.A., Mrs. Richardson, and others. 8.0. Kennington Town Hall—Public Meeting—Chair, Mrs. Henry L.L.D., Speakers, Sir William Chance, Lady Betty Balfour, Miss Sterling. 8.30. Bayswater—Ethical Church Hall, Queen's Road—Public Meeting—Speakers, Councillor Margaret Ashton, Miss Courtney, and others. 8.30. Tower Hill—Open-air Meeting—Speakers, Miss Royden, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G., Miss T. O. Ford, Miss Fielden. 8.30. Southwark—Near Elephant and Castle, King's Hall—Speakers, Mrs. Phillip Snowden, Miss Ward, Mr. Mirrieles, Mr. S. Pascall. 8.30.

JULY 26. Hyde Park—Demonstration. 5.0.

West Southwark—Open-air Meeting, St. George's Circus—Speakers, Miss M. Goddard, and others. 8.0.

JULY 27. East Ham—Meeting of the East Ham Women's Co-operative Guild at St. John's Schoolroom, St. John's Road—Speaker, Mrs. Rogers. 3.0.

JULY 28. East and West St. Pancras—Open-air Meeting, Rochester Road, Kentish Town Road—Speaker, Mrs. Rackham, P.L.G. 8.0. Brixton—"At Home" to members and friends at Trade Union Hall, 30, Brixton Road—Speaker, Miss Philippa Fawcett—Chair, Miss Helen Ward. 8.0-10.30.

JULY 29. Manchester—Meeting at Tib Street, Market Street—Speakers, Miss M. Wallhead, Councillor Longden, Mr. N. Smith. 7.30.

JULY 28. Manchester—Meeting near Sacred Trinity Church, Blackfriars Street, Salford—Speakers, Mrs. Norbury, Miss M. Wallhead, Mr. R. Robinson. 8.0. Didsbury Suffrage Club, in the room above Co-operative Stores, Wilmslow Road, Didsbury—Speakers, Mrs. J. R. Tomlinson and Mrs. Muter Wilson. 7.45. South Salford Suffrage Club, Oldfield Hall, Gardenwall Street. 8.0.

JULY 30. Manchester—Meeting at Albert Croft, Queen's Road—Speakers, Mrs. Annot Robinson, Mr. G. G. Armstrong, Mr. J. Crane. 8.0. Sunnyside—Garden Meeting at Russell House, Walmesley, by kind permission of Mrs. Shakespeare—Speaker, Miss Muriel Matters. 8.0.

Items of Interest.

Criminal Law Amendment Committee.

At the private Conference, on June 4th, of the Criminal Law Amendment Committee a strong opinion was expressed that the time had come to press for Legislation to reform the Affiliation Laws, and raise the age of consent for girls, at the same time giving protection to boys. It was also felt necessary to advocate the establishment of a system of women police officials. In order to arouse public interest the above Committee are now organising a campaign of meetings all over the country, to which they intend to send speakers on these subjects. The Criminal Law Amendment Committee, having no regular income to depend on, and realising the considerable expense entailed by such an important campaign, is obliged to appeal to its supporters for donations. The Hon. Treasurer, Lady Bunting, of 9, Torrington Place, W.C., will be glad to receive contributions. A verbatim report of the Public Conference, convened by this Committee and held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on June 5th, is now ready, price 1s. Orders for the report should be addressed to the Secretary, C.L.A. Committee, 19, Tothill Street, S.W.

Mrs. Ray Rathwell will have goods sold for tax resistance on Tuesday, July 22nd, at 6 p.m., at Gill's Auction Rooms, Cambridge Road, Kilburn. A protest meeting will be held at the corner of Preston Gardens, Church Road, Willesden, at 8 p.m.

Coming Events.

We shall be glad to announce Meetings of Societies, Lectures, etc., in this column, and a charge of 2s. per insertion of 24 words will be made. To ensure insertion in our next issue all advertisements must be received not later than Wednesday morning. All communications should be addressed to The Manager, The Common Cause Publishing Co., Limited, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

THE ETHICAL CHURCH, 46, Queen's Road, Bayswater, Sunday evening, July 27th, 7 p.m. Miss A. Maude Royden on "The Pilgrim Spirit." Admission Free.

STRATFORD SCHOOL OF FOLK SONG AND DANCE, August 2nd to 28th. All particulars from the Secretary, 11, Hart Street, London, W.C.



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To the Secretary _____ Society for Women's Suffrage,

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