

THE VOTE,
November 21, 1913
ONE PENNY.

"BATTERED INTO OBEDIENCE."

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. IX. No. 213.

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FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1913.

THIS WEEK

Edited by C. DESPARD.

FOUR EXTRA PAGES.

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

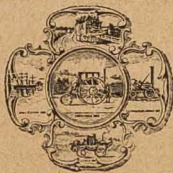
WHY WE WENT TO DOWNING STREET

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Mr. Massingham's Red Flag

In his weekly article in the *Daily News* last Monday Mr. H. W. Massingham raises the red flag of revolt against "the extreme pressure of the Party system" and the fetish worship of the Party in power. He tears down the sacro-sanctity that enshrouds governments, and declares them to be "just ordinary men. . . . Mortal, fallible, prone to error, to vanity, to forgetfulness of their promises like the rest of us." He will have none of the worship of Cabinets and the autocracy of the Executive. No, he says, it is the Party that must do the thinking, the pioneer work of suggestion and admonition; the Government is to do the acting. The Press outside, and the subservient followers inside, the House of Commons have praised and obeyed until vanity and swelled-head have taken the place of Liberal principles. Here is a Liberal journalist at last realising that Liberal principles have been betrayed by the so-called Liberal Government, and he does not like the outlook. Moved by the results of "the great tangle" over Jim Larkin, he declares that Mr. Asquith is not in close sympathetic touch with Liberal feeling, and that, in his obstinacy, he has blundered over the woman suffrage question. We marvel that it has taken clear thinking men so long to discover this fact, on which women have constantly insisted, but it needs the illiberalism to be applied to men before indignation is aroused. In the official *Daily News* Mr. Massingham pens this indictment: in his own paper, *The Nation*, he pronounces the doom of Liberalism if it "falls back into scepticism about popular movements or irrational fear of their proper, rational, and inevitable expression." Mr. Massingham is now flying the flag of revolt against the Government's illiberalism. He will find himself good company.

Suffragists in Line.

We do Mr. Massingham the justice of recognising that he has protested strongly against a deadlock on the woman's suffrage question—he still hugs his pet idea of local option as a way out—but when, in the *Daily News* article he seeks to excuse the Government in some measure by declaring that the Militants would not come to terms without all the honour and glory, he entirely overlooks the fact that every Society came into line over the Conciliation Bill and would have accepted it as breaking down the sex barrier and an instalment of justice to women. But though it was drafted to suit Cabinet Ministers, its success was the last thing they desired. When that success was practically assured it was ingloriously "torpedoed" and the women left in a worse position than ever. They now present again a solid front, refusing to listen to specious promises, and demanding with one voice a Government measure.

The Effect of Force.

The autumn Parliamentary holiday has done one thing: it has enabled politicians to toss backwards and forwards the ball of "conference" on the Ulster question; first they would and then they wouldn't, then they smiled and said they couldn't, while the Party Press on one side and on the other suggested, declined, ridiculed, then accepted the idea. It was a very astute game, and now we find the Liberal organs beseeching both sides to the controversy not to prejudice the "interchange of views" by saying what they will—or what they will not—accept, and hailing Mr. Churchill's latest formula as one which will settle the Irish question

before the end of the year. What does it all mean? That the Government have capitulated to force. It is the only weapon they understand. Mr. T. P. O'Connor, we note, is very anxious about those slips between the cup and the lip, and is quaking lest any trouble should arise between Liberalism and Labour before Home Rule is assured. Is his conscience pricking him over the silence of the Nationalists with regard to the Dublin strike? It has good reason to do so. In *Reynolds's* this week his only plea is: Settle my question first, and when I am out of the way you can do what you like! When women take a leaf out of the politicians' book and insist on the importance of their question, a Cabinet Minister has the effrontery to say, as Mr. Masterman did at the Anti-Sweating Conference at Sunderland House last Monday to Suffragists who asked awkward questions about votes for women: "We are here on more serious business, and you had better be quiet, or go out." The more serious business is to give women votes, and the right to bring pressure on all legislation that affects women and children. They will have plenty to do in repairing men's blunders.

New Workhouse Order.

Mrs. Nevinson, whose experience as a Poor-law Guardian has often been placed at the service of the Freedom League, writes as follows:—"The abomination of the mixed workhouse still continues, and a Liberal Government is content to tinker at a rotten system, though more than four years ago the Poor Law Commission unanimously condemned this evil both in Majority and Minority reports. But the *new House* Committee is exercising the public mind far more than necessary, considering that it is a very ancient institution and was first recommended to Boards of Guardians by the Local Government Board in 1868. I have served on this Committee for nearly ten years and have not found Mr. and Mrs. Webb's fears justified that it will be easy to exclude a Labour member or woman or Roman Catholic or any inconvenient critic." On the contrary, women seem to serve double turns, as some Guardians are not enthusiastic over matters of the House, the nursery, the laundry, and the kitchen. I cannot find that the new orders take away the statutory right of inmates with a grievance to make their complaint before the whole Board. No Freedom Leaguer holds a brief for this Government, but "fair is fair," and some of our papers do not seem to want to know the truth."

A Dual Curse.

Mr. McKenna has been laying the foundation-stone for a school of epileptics and mentally defective children to accommodate 950 men, women and children. If Dr. Robert Jones, of Earlswood, is correct in his figures, more stones will have to be laid. According to his calculations we have 150,000 mentally deficient, and accommodation for only 12,000. The State is going to supply £150,000 for this cheerful work, and local authorities an equal sum—so pay, pay, pay, ye who are not yet certified. More stones, and ever yet more, for the horrible conditions under which women bear and bring up children must conduce to the propagation of idiots. According to the statistics of the New Constitutional Society, 60 per cent. of women in one London parish keep their husbands; doubtless if we had time to take them these would be the approximate figures in most London parishes, or we might even say in most British city parishes. The curse of Adam was never meant to be put on the top of the curse of Eve.

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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.
THE "PROTECTED" SEX.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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AT HEADQUARTERS.

Caxton Hall.—Next Wednesday afternoon we shall have the pleasure of a lecture from Mr. Malcolm Mitchell on "The Growth of the Suffrage Movement." The chair will be taken by Mrs. Tanner at 3.30, and some account will be given of the proceedings in Court the previous Monday morning. The following Wednesday afternoon, December 3, Mrs. Ackroyd will speak on "The Work of Women on Councils." Will our readers kindly make this known among all those who are interested in Local Government work?

Tuesday Evening, December 2. Mr. E. B. Lloyd will open a discussion at this office on "The Real Meaning of the White Slave Traffic." We hope those who are interested in this question will come to take part in the discussion. The chair will be taken at eight o'clock. Admission to all these meetings is free.

Organisers.—Miss Munro has been holding a series of meetings in Middlesbrough during the week. Miss Andrews has been working in Manchester, where a very successful meeting was held last Friday evening, at which Mrs. Despard also spoke. Miss Elphick is in Birmingham, and we hope that the result of her prolonged visit will be the addition of two Branches to the Women's Freedom League.

Yarmouth.—We have a member in this district who would like to meet sympathisers with our League with the object of forming a Branch there. Will any of our readers in the neighbourhood, or those who have friends in or near Yarmouth kindly send names and addresses to 1, Robert-street? F. A. UNDERWOOD.

POLITICAL AND MILITANT.

A CALL AT DOWNING-STREET—AND AFTER.

At the close of Sunday afternoon's meeting, after the presentation of the Prison Badge to Mrs. Harvey (through Mrs. Despard), and the bouquets from the Women's Freedom League and the Women's Tax Resistance League, the following resolution, proposed by Miss Nina Boyle and seconded by Miss Eunice Murray, was put to the meeting by Mrs. Despard and carried unanimously, with the greatest enthusiasm:—

That in view of the action of the Government in setting free Mr. James Larkin, described by the Attorney-General for Ireland, on behalf of the Government, as "a wicked and dangerous criminal," and released by the Chief Secretary for Ireland, on behalf of the Government, as "an act of justice," this meeting of the Women's Freedom League views with the utmost indignation the retention in prison under the provisions of the Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill-Health) Act of a number of persons, men and women, on charges in connection with the Suffrage movement.

This meeting protests most warmly against the unjust and arbitrary distinctions made by the Government in its treatment of agitators by women without votes and the agitators of men already in possession of votes. It demands that the same act of justice exercised on behalf of Mr. Larkin shall be exercised on behalf of imprisoned Suffragettes and those released on license. It demands the immediate and unconditional release of all such persons, and it further demands that in the future they shall receive the same treatment as that granted the Right Hon. Sir Starr Jameson, Mr. Devlin, M.P., Mr. James Larkin, and other political prisoners, and be placed in the first division.

The entire meeting then followed Mrs. Huntsman, and marshalled by Miss Sidley and other members, reassembled, below the steps in Downing-street, on Horse Guards-parade. Miss Boyle, Miss Murray, Mrs. Juson Kerr, and Miss Gertrude Eaton, with representatives of the Press, then repaired with the banners of the League in a taxi to No. 10, Downing-street, delivered the resolution under the nose of the solitary and dis-

concerted constable (who sent hurriedly for reinforcements), and then addressed the crowd, amid loud cheers, from the steps.

Miss Murray was arrested almost immediately, and then some perturbation appeared to trouble the official mind. No further arrests were made, while Miss Boyle and Mrs. Kerr continued to speak and explain the reason of the protest. When, however, Miss Boyle called for speakers to volunteer from the crowd to "keep the flag flying," as apparently they were "to be allowed to go on all night," the party of constables massed at the gates, which they had closed, proceeded to take action. Miss Boyle, Mrs. Kerr, and Miss Boileau were taken in custody to Cannon-row, and the meeting was dispersed, many of the members, however, accompanying Mrs. Despard to the police-station to give bail.

At Bow-street next morning Miss Boyle and Miss Murray were released on a week's remand, after a sharp altercation, to prepare their defence. Mrs. Kerr and Miss Boileau were bound over in £5 to be of good behaviour for six months, but refused to give any such undertaking. They were detained until the rising of the court, and then released unconditionally—a triumph of defiance. A large number of witnesses are to be called on Monday next, and a *subpoena* is to be applied for to secure the attendance of Baillie Pratt, the new Member for West Lothian, who accompanied the Scottish men's deputation to Downing-street.

BY-ELECTIONS.

SOUTH LANARKSHIRE.

Organiser: MISS ADA BROUGHTON.

Committee Rooms: 23, Waterside-street, Strathaven.

Candidates—

The Hon. W. WATSON (U.)

Mr. GEORGE MORTON (L.)

Mr. T. GIBB (Lab.)

Liberal majority at last election, 1,197.

The Women's Freedom League took up their quarters in the constituency at Strathaven, where they have opened a shop which already has become a centre of activity and attraction in the town. Arrangements are being made for special indoor meetings for women in the shop every Wednesday afternoon till polling day. We have had splendid open-air meetings at Stonehouse, at which Mrs. Wilson and Miss Shenman have most kindly assisted Miss Broughton. A magnificent crowd abandoned the Unionist platform to come to our meeting, and although we have only been in the constituency for a few days the Suffragettes are the most popular in the district among both town and country folk, some of whom walked over five miles to come to our Thursday meeting. At Strathaven, after a most successful meeting addressed by Miss Semple, there was a good deal of heckling from local Liberals who could not understand the League's anti-Government policy, but Miss Semple was more than a match for them all, and her able replies evoked much appreciation from her hearers. *THE VOTE* sold well, also our badges. Meetings will be held this week at Carlisle, Lesmahagow, Blackwood, Strathaven, and Stonehouse.

Candidates' Confessions.

Asked for answers to questions on the subject of Woman Suffrage, Mr. Watson, the Unionist candidate, writes as follows through his secretary:—

Edmonston, Biggar.

Dear Madam,—Mr. Watson received your letter with accompanying questions as to his views on Women's Suffrage, and desires me to say that his present position is that he is not satisfied that, at this moment, the country as a whole desires it.

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or that if it were granted it would be beneficial for the country. If, however, by a General Election or by the Referendum the country shows that it does desire the granting of votes to women, he will no longer oppose it. Accordingly he is unable to give an affirmative answer to the questions put.

Mr. Tom Gibb, the Labour candidate, writes:—
Ravenshall, Cleland, November 13, 1913.

Dear Madam,—How many Women's Societies are there? I am being kept busy with interviews and letters on this subject. My position is—

(1) Yes, in favour of Votes for Women.
(2) Against extension not including women, that being the position of my organisation I am at perfect liberty to say, Yes.

(3) If returned I certainly would support pressure for a Government measure granting the prayer of the women.

As I have already on several occasions answered these questions in this way I hope your people will spare me in the matter of time, which is precious just now.

The Liberal candidate has so far vouchsafed no reply.

The following contributions are herewith most gratefully acknowledged:—

For West Lothian—		£	s.	d.	Mrs. Crabbe		£	s.	d.
Miss Husband	..	5	0	0	Miss H. Harvey	..	1	0	0
Misses McLaren	..	1	0	0	Miss Andrew Young	..	1	9	0
Miss McLachlan	..	2	6	0	For South Lanarkshire—				
Mrs. Bell	..	2	0	0	Miss Semple	..	2	6	0
Miss A. B. Jack	..	5	0	0	Mrs. Wilson and Friend	..	4	6	0

ADDITIONAL ORGANISERS: SPECIAL APPEAL

Within the last three weeks we have appealed for £100 for by-election work, and £100 for enlarging THE VOTE. We have received the first £100, for which we return hearty thanks to all who contributed. With this money we have fought three by-elections, and are engaged in a fourth, making a good show for our money, for the League, and our Cause. We have already a good sum in hand towards THE VOTE Fund, and now our immediate want is £500 for extra organisers. The League is growing and expanding so rapidly, so many new members are joining, so many new Branches are being formed, that it is imperative to have additional organisers. With the prospects of a General Election



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before us we must make the whole country—north, south, east and west—echo and re-echo with the cry of "Votes for Women!" We confidently appeal to you to do your share and send your donation at once towards the £500 now being raised, and for which already contributions are coming in.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.
ELIZABETH KNIGHT.

PARTY "HONOUR."

The Party system appears to have completely rotted away the national honour. It is one of the worst enemies of the Women's movement. More dangerous even than the Prime Minister; for Prime Ministers have a limit set by Nature to the time they can continue to hold back the clock, whereas the Party system defies the three-score-and-ten years' limit. Men may come and men may go; the Party system goes on—we will not say for ever; but the time of its departure is surely overdue!

The Liberal Party holds a brief for something which it calls Democracy. This same Democracy is a strange cur, with a startling resemblance to other things called Autocracy and Monopoly, which Liberals would fain have us believe are only to be found in the Unionist camp. It is indeed an arresting spectacle to see this gaunt cur led round, securely muzzled and leashed, the while the Cabinet Ministers expatiate on its virtues and excellencies, and their own appreciation of these virtues, and so forth. It is not so long, however, since a discreditable dodge to defeat the real Democracy was deliberately engineered. Rather than allow women—the taxed and the governed and the oppressed women of the nation—to obtain representation, the Prime Minister preferred to play into the hands of the Unionists, and join with them in the denial of justice to those who need it most.

Shortly after this event, Mr. Dickinson, a Member of Parliament whose attitude towards Women's Suffrage has been uniformly staunch, addressed a meeting of the Women's Freedom League. There could be no possible doubt about his enthusiasm for this much-needed reform; only his "loyalty" to his Party and to the leader of that Party, came first. His advice was, not to attempt to tie up the Government with the Suffrage question; not to embarrass Liberal supporters by asking for a Government measure. Sir Edward Grey has also placed his "loyalty to the Prime Minister" before all other principles; and to "keep the Party together," to avoid anything in the nature of a split, the principle that does not happen to be backed or enforced by organised bodies of voters can be thrown over like ballast or pigeon-holed like a Departmental report.

The Unionist Party, entrenched in its intolerance of any new thing—or rather, any new thing that does not promise a definite advantage to the Unionist Party—has just rejected Lord Robert Cecil's resolution to place a measure of enfranchisement for tax-paying women on the party programme. This is the Party that made the whole world ring with the cry, No taxation without representation! when some British men of "jingoistic" tendencies asked for citizen rights in the Transvaal. Troops were rushed from all the outposts of Empire to enforce this cry; women were starved and ruined, taxed and pillaged and widowed, in making it good. What humbug it all must have been. The "capitalist" cry, the "Chinese slavery" cry, false as these were—trumped up to make a case by Party opponents—were not so false as that Unionist pretence of desiring to enforce the principle of Taxation and Representation being political twins. Their treatment of the women's claim rends the veil of sham, and shows to the world the Unionist Party as perjured as its opponents, and as unabashed.

And what of the Labour Party, to whose friendship so many trust implicitly? We believe the situation to be pretty much the same there. The Labour Party,

as a Party, we fear does not care one bit more for removing the sex disability than the Unionist does for obtaining representation for the taxed. To obtain Adult Suffrage it gives us a measure of support, but it will make no sacrifice of its own advantage for the principle which has been on its programme for almost as long as Home Rule, if not longer. Just so the Unionists might use the Women's movement to secure the Referendum.

At Keighley the Women's Freedom League workers were told quite plainly that their co-operation was not desired by the Labour candidate's committee, because where it might secure one hundred votes on one side, it might lose three hundred on the other. We cannot imagine any Labour candidate taking this attitude about Home Rule, and yet at Keighley the parallel actually existed for a number of Conservative operatives, who had a horror of Home Rule, were voting Labour on account of trouble at the mills. No suggestion was made that Home Rulers should be eliminated for fear of losing the votes of Conservative working men; but a quite different point of view was adopted for Suffrage.

The moral of this is, that everywhere Party is our enemy. In the parties are a small number of earnest men, like Lord Lytton and Lord Robert Cecil, Mr. Dickenson, Mr. Healy and Mr. Keir Hardie, who will make sacrifices for us up to a certain point; beyond that we can count on nothing. And therefore it is plain that our point of attack must continue to be the Government, and that to hamper it, harass it, entangle it in difficulties, make its way uneasy both at elections and at other times, must be our constant pre-occupation and the chief end and aim of our policy.

C. NINA BOYLE.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Unionists Reject Woman Suffrage.

At the Conference of the National Unionist Association at Norwich on November 14, a Woman Suffrage motion was brought forward by Lord Robert Cecil, and seconded by Lord Willoughby de Broke. Lord Robert said there was nothing more disgraceful in our whole Parliamentary history than the way in which this question had been played with by members of Parliament. No honest man could possibly approve the way in which it had been treated, mainly by Radical members, who professed to be in favour of it.

This was a serious matter, and whatever happened Unionists should not be tarred with that brush. They should not resort to Parliamentary devices in order to shift the burden of a very great and imminent question from their shoulders when it got into a Parliamentary impasse. It was a profound and very damaging mistake in the eyes of the democracy to represent the Conservatives as always opposed to an extension of the franchise. He shared the opinion of Lord Beaconsfield and the late Lord Salisbury that no sex disqualification should exist. The militants were fanatics, but it was unfair and unjust to make all law-abiding Suffragists suffer because of the eccentric and lawless acts of what was, after all, a small number of women. There were many matters in which, if they wanted to get the best possible results, they had to take the peculiar qualities of women and the peculiar qualities of men and get co-operation between the two. At present there was nothing wanted more than the spiritual qualities which were really the distinguishing characteristic of women.

Mr. Arnold Ward, M.P., moved as an amendment: "That it is not expedient to grant the Parliamentary franchise to women on any terms until this great constitutional change has received the express sanction of the electors."

The amendment was carried.

The "Suffrage First" Committee.

A group of men and women interested in Woman Suffrage have decided to form themselves into a committee to be called the "Suffrage First" Committee. The object of the committee will be to secure from electors a pledge that, unless women have been already enfranchised, they will at the next election in their division, put Woman Suffrage first, in using their votes. Mr. Pethick Lawrence has agreed to act temporarily as honorary secretary of the Committee, and to have correspondence dealt with at his office, 4-7, Red Lion-court, Fleet-street, E.C.

"A Violation of Every Democratic Principle."

Mr. H. G. Chancellor, Liberal M.P. for Shoreditch (Haggerston) Division, was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Darlington Women's Suffrage Society at the Co-operative Hall on Saturday evening, when a resolution was passed calling upon the Government to introduce a Women's Suffrage Bill in the present Parliament.

The Rev. T. C. Gobat presided, and said that women ought

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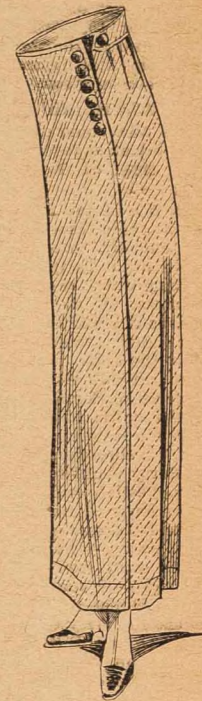
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to enter politics, a cleansing and refining influence would then be applied.

Mr. Chancellor, supporting the resolution, but declaring that he was not hopeful for a Bill during the present Parliament, said that the promises made to the women had not been fulfilled, and though the Government had attempted to fulfil them they had a right to demand a further effort. The continuation of the present system of government was a violation of every democratic principle.

The Penalty of a Suffragist.

The Times published on November 15 the following information:—

Early in the year Sir Victor Horsley was invited to address a series of meetings in the Harborough Division of Leicestershire with a view to his becoming Liberal candidate in succession to Mr. Logan, M.P., who is retiring at the close of the present Parliament. Sir Victor has spoken frequently in the constituency, but his attitude towards the Militant Suffragists and their treatment has caused controversy in the Liberal ranks. As a result the Executive, while respecting his opinions, have indicated to him by resolution their belief that those opinions would militate against his success.

Sir Victor Horsley's reply appeared on November 17, as follows:—

"The *communiqué* which you appear to have received respecting myself and the Harborough Liberal Association is so inaccurate as to compel me to correct it immediately. I was not merely 'invited to address meetings' in the Harborough Division. I was selected by the executive committee and later adopted by the council of the Harborough Liberal Association as prospective candidate, a Radical supporter of the Government and of Woman's Suffrage. In this capacity and on this understanding I have held many successful meetings in the division. Shortly before the holidays the official of the executive committee informed me that my support of franchise extension was unfavourable to my candidature. Since the holidays the committee has held two meetings, at the last of which a resolution was passed consisting of erroneous statements of my views and informing me that they had instructed the officers (one of whom is the teller for the anti-Suffrage party in the House of Commons) to seek another candidate. No mention was made of any 'respect for my opinions.' No meeting has yet been held of the council by whom I was adopted and to whom I shall now refer the matter."

France the Unready.

The French Chamber, on November 11, defeated by 311

votes to 133, an amendment to the electoral law giving the right to vote to both sexes.

Hard Labour for Women Suffragists.

For protesting against the trial of Rachel Peace—who has been forcibly fed while on remand and was unable to make her defence before being sentenced to 18 months' imprisonment—in the court of Mr. Justice Lawrence at the Old Bailey, on November 15, Catherine Jones was sentenced to two months' imprisonment for throwing a hammer, which struck a warder; and Mary Aldham and Ethel Seaton to one month's hard labour for smashing glass.

The Aftermath of Larkin's Imprisonment.

We take some extracts showing the indignation of the Press over injustice to a voter. Mr. Massingham, in his article in *The Daily News* of November 17, entitled "Acting and Thinking," says:—

It is well for Liberals to be wideawake. The Government has in some respects been far too *ungoverned* for its good, and not entirely through its own fault. Its Press has done too much for it in the way of praise, and not enough in the way of suggestion and guidance. And the Parliamentary Party has been far too yielding, and too uncritical. . . . The imperious demand for unity which the situation under the Parliament Act created, and the tightness with which the Whips drew the reins of party discipline, the absence of a body of able and independent thinkers below the gangway of the old Fawcett-Morley-Chamberlain type, left the interpretation of the spirit of Liberalism to the Government itself instead of to the Radicals and the independents. But this was an abuse or a misdirection of functions. Governments do the acting; the Party ought to do the thinking, or at least the pioneer work of suggestion and admonition. For this purpose a certain independence of mind is indispensable.

Take the two questions in which the Government have gone most astray—the Woman's question and the Labour question. If the early women's deputations had had greater scope, and the right of audience been more respected, above all, if the Prime Minister had set his own prepossession aside, and had let the majority of the Cabinet act (let us say on the lines of a Local Option Bill), this hideous, dragging quarrel over a new application of an elemental right of democracy might have been avoided. Of course, the Government were not alone to blame. I think the Pankhurst domination of the extreme Suffrage movement had a good deal to do with its failure, and that this element never really wanted a settlement unless it could have the glory of negotiating it. But a keener sense of what Liberalism meant might have brought us some steps nearer Woman Suffrage than we stand to-day.

So let us agree not to treat Governments as fetishes. They are made up of mortal, fallible men, prone to error, to vanity, to forgetfulness of their promises, like the rest of us. And if the general attitude of their friends is like one of passive obedience, the real end of progressive politics—that of keeping progressive ideas alive in the nation—will fail.

The Westminster Gazette.

The prosecution of Larkin on the count of sedition was a serious administrative blunder which might well have been corrected by his earlier release. Had he been convicted on the other counts we should have had nothing to say, but when acquitted on these, he ought to have gone free. If these ancient statutes against sedition are to be revived, a great many other people ought to be in gaol, including Sir Edward Carson, whose language in Ulster has been far more dangerously seditious than any that Mr. Larkin used in Dublin.

Reynolds's calls for the resignation of Mr. Birrell, Lord Aberdeen, the Irish Attorney-General, indicts the Nationalists, and then says:—"More than that, we hope the working classes will take a lesson from the Larkin affair. If the authorities are allowed to use such methods of repression in the case of industrial disputes, the outlook is gloomy indeed. Free speech, free discussion of political, social, and industrial affairs we must have, cost what it may. If there is some legal technicality upon which a man may be gaoled for using such words as Larkin used, then that legal quibble must be abolished."

The Nation writes:—

"We are less concerned even with Mr. Larkin's freedom, greatly as we applaud the resolve to open his prison doors without further parley, than with the renewal of the Liberal spirit. Eight years of power make serious inroads on the freshness of men who suffer this long detachment from the broad currents of public opinion. Ideas get stale; the use and wont of office, and the hourly pressure of small duties, tend to turn statesmen into officials, as they turn officials into reactionists. All we can say is that if the Cabinet yields to this process of fining down Liberalism, it will neither secure Home Rule, nor win the next election. Such a result would be the mere futility of misadventure. Whiggery is dead, and has left no heirs. Average Toryism is in no better case. The choice is being rapidly narrowed to a form of Tory democracy which is repudiated by more than half the Tory party, and a Liberalism which really elects to take up the problems of democracy as its direct representatives prepare and present them. Everything else in politics is either dead or dying, or as yet unready to be born. But if Liberalism falls back into scepticism about popular movements or irrational fear of their proper, rational, and inevitable expression, it will die too."

"L'AFFAIRE LARKIN."

"L'Affaire Larkin" has made a considerable sensation. Taken in conjunction with other acts of the Government, it may stand as an example of what not to do and how not to do it. The prosecution in succession of the leaders of the Women's Social and Political Union, Mr. Tom Mann, Mrs. Drummond, Mr. Lansbury, Mr. Scurr, and Mr. Larkin, under obsolete laws relating to conspiracy, mutiny, sedition, buccaneering and what not, raked up from periods of history dating hundreds of years into the past, have somewhat milded the veneered surfaces of twentieth-century Liberalism. Some election results brought this home to the autocrats of Downing-street, and the nasty jar thus inflicted, as well as the prospect of two more in the immediate future, effected in an astoundingly short space of time the conversion of the "wicked and dangerous criminal" into "Mr. Larkin," whose "happy release" caused the honour and conscience of the Chief Secretary for Ireland to emit such delighted Birrellings and twitterings at Bristol last week. Some captious folk are muttering rude gibes about the belated discovery of said honour and conscience, which have been so conveniently kennelled in the case of captive women whose Cause Mr. Birrell professes to believe in; but we would not have it otherwise. We now know past all misunderstanding what kind of a Government we have and in what depths of mire its members will wallow. Those who choose not to see may go on deceiving themselves; but for clear eyes and sane minds there is only one judgment possible.

The Government has pickled a handy rod for its own back, and the Women's Freedom League has not been slow to use it. There are, however, others besides the Government who show lack of the most elementary fairness in dealing with this question. We refer to the Press, venal, biased and untruthful; and we especially direct our remarks to *The Sunday Chronicle*, *The Daily Chronicle*, and other organs of enlightened opinion who have delivered themselves at great length and with much sounding of brass and tinkling of cymbals on the folly, tyranny, iniquity, and so forth of Dublin Castle. Dublin Castle will shortly become quite fashionable again—as a scapegoat.

One might be tempted to suppose, from the promptitude and unanimity with which Dublin Castle has been assailed, that that discredited institution—only slightly more shortsighted and antiquated than our own administration—had decided all of a sudden and entirely off its own bat to prosecute the strikers. No one would imagine that "Mr. Larkin" had been waiting this trial for quite three months, and that numbers of his friends and associates are still waiting! We understand that a *nolle prosequi* is to be entered in respect of all these cases, as well as in the preposterous charges against Mrs. Montefiore, Mrs. Rand, and the other charitable folks who tried to remove the hapless Dublin strike waifs from the scenes of violence and brutality in which they are willing. In fact, there is to be a clean sheet all round, with everyone, as Mr. Kipling says,

in couples a-kissin' on the deck,

only that Mr. Larkin hardly seems to be in a loving mood yet.

In all this volume of advice, reproof, admonishment and reconciliation, there is no mention of the other movement whose leaders and workers are suffering far more heavily under imprisonment and savage persecution than ever Mr. Larkin and his friends have done. *The Sunday Chronicle*, contrasting the attitude of the judge with that of the prosecution, opined that this "wicked and dangerous criminal" was treated "for all the world as if he had been a Suffragette who had destroyed a post-card." *The Sunday Chronicle* is wrong, criminally wrong. Suffragists are not treated like that. They are placed in the second division, as are procurers and men who indecently assault little girls, or given hard labour; and a responsible journal that misrepresents facts like this is behaving in a fashion that calls for

punishment far more serious than that given to Mr. Larkin.

The Sunday Chronicle waxes solemn about the dangers of the ancient notions and wide sphere of laws such as the law of sedition. It is not one whit more dangerous than that of conspiracy, or than that under which Mr. Lansbury and Mr. Seurr were tried. This journalistic passion for justice for men only is a very loathsome thing; and the two *Chronicles* have earned for themselves a peculiarly unsavoury reputation for hypocrisy by the canting and untruthful pose they have assumed in *l'Affaire Larkin*.
C. NINA BOYLE.

"THE VOTE": AN APPEAL.

Dear Readers, In sending out my appeal this week I wish to thank most warmly the friends who have already made so generous a response; their example will stimulate others, and I am convinced that ere long we shall, through the help of our friends, be able to make the enlargement of our paper permanent. We have received from many quarters expressions of appreciation of the increased and varied interest which the enlargement of the past three weeks has made possible. We must go on; we cannot now go back to sixteen pages. Will you help?

As Editor of *THE VOTE* I make a special appeal to you at this juncture in the Suffrage Movement. We feel that victory is in sight, and we want the organ of the Women's Freedom League to play its part worthily in the approaching triumph. We are severely hampered by want of space; articles of special interest have to be refused and events of importance left unnoticed because our paper is too small to include them. We want a permanent enlargement of four pages, but for this we must have £5 a week guaranteed.

Advertisers are finding our paper a very useful medium and are taking more and more space. This is a most healthy sign of our importance. We must, however, keep pace with the demands on us by providing extra pages for reading matter.

I ask for £100 now, so that we may be sure of a twenty-page *VOTE* for twenty weeks. I know I shall not appeal in vain. For the sake of our great Cause you will enable me to carry out this improvement.

THE VOTE is an integral and essential part of our League; it is eagerly bought up at our meetings everywhere; and in view of the importance of the political situation we feel that an immediate enlargement is imperative.

Remember, every contribution, large or small, is a practical help.—Yours in the Cause,
C. DESPARD.

P.S. Will every reader fill up *THE VOTE* Coupon on page 20?

SUBSCRIPTIONS RECEIVED.

	£	s.	d.
Already acknowledged	59	7	6
Miss Constance Maud	5	0	0
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Mrs. Baillie-Weaver	2	2	0
Mrs. Angus	1	0	0
Mrs. Groves	13	0	0
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Our Thanks.—Many a time and oft we have had occasion to thank our good friend and member, Mrs. Catmur for her gifts to the Merchandise Department. We have just received a new consignment of her famous lemon-curd, which is so much appreciated. Would-be purchasers must apply at once if they wish to secure some of this toothsome curd (1s. per lb.). We know they will join with us in thanking Mrs. Catmur for this latest and practical evidence of her good-will.

To the anonymous friend who has sent excellent blackberry-and-apple jam for sale at 4d. per lb., we also tender our best thanks.

WE REGRET THAT OWING TO SPECIAL PRESSURE ON OUR SPACE we are obliged to hold over till next week our notice of the admirable article in *The Century* (New York) on "The Militant Women—and Women," by Edna Kenton.

A SMART SHIRT.



"CLARICE."

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WHAT THEY DIDN'T SAY.

The following extracts are not to be found in the works of the authors quoted below:—

IV.

Charles Dickens: "The Pickwick Papers."

"Vell, Sammy," said Mr. Weller.

"Vell, my Prooshun blue," responded the son, laying down his pen, "what's the latest bulletin about mother-in-law?"

"Mrs. Veller passed a werry good night, but is uncommon perverse and unpleasant this mornin'—signed upon oath—Tony Veller, Esq. That's the last vun as was issued, Sammy," replied Mr. Weller, untying his shawl.

"No better yet?" inquired Sam.

"All the symptoms aggerawated," replied Mr. Weller, shaking his head. "But wot's that you're a doin' of—pursuit of knowledge under difficulties—eh, Sammy?"

"I've done now," said Sam, with slight embarrassment; "I've been a writin'."

"So I see," replied Mr. Weller. "Not to any young 'ooman, I hope, Sammy."

"Why, it's no use a sayin' it ain't," replied Sam. "It's a valentine."

"Samivel, Samivel," said Mr. Weller in warning accents, "beware of the vidders. Your mother was a sweet, pretty creetur, an' wery comfortable, an' sich a worker, Sammy, sich a worker. You didn't catch me on the box in them days. She vos that fond o' me, that nothin' I could do vos wrong for her; and I took my little walks o' mornin's, an' sat an' drank my glass in the bar, evenin's, till I thought she'd be done an' supper vos ready; an' ne'er a cross word."

"Done? Vot did she do, then?" inquired Sam.

"Do?" said Mr. Weller. "She took in vashin' an' made a good thing of it, an' allus a hot supper for me ven she'd done. Ah! them vos times!"

"Ah," said Sam, "bit different from mother-in-law."

"Sammy, my boy," said Mr. Weller, solemnly, "your mother-in-law vos a vidder. She said she warn't a goin' to keep me in idleness, an' ne'er a stroke 'o work did she do. The boot was on the other leg with your mother, Sammy, the first Mrs. V. 'twas ne'er a stroke did I do. Beware o' the vidders, Sammy, they knows too much."
H. S.

PEACE AND THE KING'S REMEMBRANCER.

The annual meeting of the International Arbitration and Peace Association was held at the Westminster Palace Hotel on Thursday, November 13. The chair was taken by Sir John Macdonnell, C.B., LL.D., a State functionary with the quaint and picturesque title of the King's Remembrancer. If wearied at any time with the cares of his office, he might apply to Women Suffragists, who would no doubt be glad to take on his duties and to have the opportunity of bringing to the ears of the King and of his counsellors certain truth which Sir John, himself, accentuated. "War and violence," said the chairman, "inevitably breed fresh war." Women have said this so often that they are beginning to look upon the statement as a platitude. They have also called attention to the fact that this truth is equally self-evident in regard to war between classes or sexes as it is to war between nations.

He regretted the waste of life, energy and money expended upon war. Will he remind the King and those who act for him of the wasted efforts of those who are endeavouring to repress the most insistent and vital agitation of modern times and of the waste of women's lives and women's energies, which could be used, in his own words, "to call into existence that new social order," and "to bring into being those immense possibilities which lie before the world." "War will pass," he said, "as pestilences have passed." "A time will come when men and women, looking back on the battle grounds of the past, will say, How foolish was the generation who endured these things so long." We can hear the next generation (we have the privilege of knowing some of them) saying something still stronger of the illiberalism of a Government which has warred against its women and tortured its prisoners, captured in fighting for the very principles upon which a Liberal Government is fondly supposed to be based.

Mr. Felix Moscheles spoke of this generation as clamouring for the Torch of Liberty. Militant Suffragists will appreciate the symbolism of the phrase. Speaking of the factors making for international peace, he said, "Labour is joining us, and women are taking their solemn oath that, when they get the vote, they will curb the vicious instincts of pugnacious man." As the Americans would say, he gives us a long row to hoe. He looked forward to the time when "women would help men to get rid of the nightmare of war." We have no medical statistics on the subject, but we are inclined to believe that nightmares are a form of indisposition to which the male sex are the more prone, and we may point out, that for their cure, a resort to somewhat drastic measures is occasionally not only advisable, but necessary. "Common-sense," he said, "is elbowing its way into the work of the world." We can assure him that the common-sense of women views with abhorrence the brutality of Governments towards their foes both within and without their boundaries.

Dr. David Starr Jordan, an eminent zoologist, for twenty-two years the President of Stanford University in California, referred to the American War of Honour of 1812, and he asked the pertinent question, "What and where is honour among thieves and among nations?" We venture to add, "Where is it among

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politicians?" "War," he said, "is a moral wrong, and there is no moral wrong which is not also condemned by science." As a biologist, he was anxious to press the biological argument against war. It has been said that war is a strengthener of the nation, developing qualities of courage and magnanimity and virility. Nothing could be further from the truth. It is a selective agency for destroying the virility of the race. Animal breeders know that by selecting the best parents, they produce the best stock. "Like the seed is the harvest." But in war, it is the young and strong and physically fit who are cut off, leaving the race to be continued by others less virile. "It is the men who are left to determine the character of the race." He illustrated this truth from the histories of Greece and Rome. "Emigration," he said, "leaves the world no poorer." Qualities which are useful to the human race in one country bear their harvest in another, but for the death of the young and strong there is no compensation. "War puts good men out of the world." In going from English cathedral to cathedral, he had been struck by the number of monuments to young men who had fallen in England's wars, until he was wont to think that this country had exchanged her youth for marble and brass tablets. He reminded the Eugenists that there were departments of life in which man would always be his own master, but, if it is their desire to improve the race, then they must preserve the most virile elements of the race, nor lower its vitality by subjecting it to the infection of the vices of armies.

There were countries which were exercising themselves because of the fall of their birth-rate. Did their statesmen consider the streams of lives which had never been born—the children and descendants of those who had fallen on the battlefields of the world. Nor was the question solely a quantitative one. If you kill off prospective parents who are above the average, you tend to breed from stocks which are below the average. In modern countries, and under existing conditions, it is the less desirable elements which tend to multiply. "But you cannot," said Dr. Starr Jordan, "breed free men from slaves." You cannot get freedom from the men and women of the slums. Freedom is born of good conditions.

"When James Russell Lowell was asked how long the American Republic would continue to exist, he replied that it would last as long as the principles of the fathers of that Republic remained in the hearts of the people."

This is another point for the King's Remembrancer to bring to the notice of those who are endeavouring to crush out the love of freedom from the hearts of more than half the people of this country, and who are carrying on civil war against a sex. E. M. N. C.

CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS."

Enthusiastic Reception to Mr. Lansbury.

The Caxton Hall was crowded on November 12 to hear our speakers, and especially to welcome Mr. Lansbury. Many were turned away, and many showed their keen appreciation by standing throughout the proceedings. Mr. Lansbury, who received an enthusiastic welcome, said that women must once for all destroy the doctrine that the minority had no right to be heard. The Government were willing to temporise with rebels in Ulster who formed the minority, thus showing that a different code of morals was applied to men and women. He asked if, in view of the proposed conference on Home Rule, the time had not come for a conference on the woman's question. He wanted them clearly to understand that the woman's militant movement was quite as important and serious as the militant movement in Ulster, and that it ought to receive the same consideration from Mr. Asquith and his Cabinet as that of Ulster. He thought the woman's question should be lifted out of and above party politics, and a group should be formed in every constituency of those who will worry and influence candidates on this one issue.

Miss Nina Boyle then followed. She said that we considered ourselves real democrats, that we were out to redress the wrongs of every woman irrespective of class. She considered that the wrong which deprived a woman of title of her inheritance under the Law of Primogeniture was as great a wrong as that which deprived a woman in the industrial world of her rightful wages. Miss Eunice Murray presided, and the meeting throughout was of the most enthusiastic character.



Xmas-Present Land at Peter Robinson's Oxford Street

THE splendidly-diverse assortments of articles now ready in our Gift-goods Section offer an almost limitless choice of beautiful presents suitable for Yule-tide offering, priced from 1s. to £100. Here is a veritable Xmas-present Land, which offers innumerable and timely suggestions such as Jewellery, Art Needlework, Picture and Photo Frames, Umbrellas, Perfumery, Handkerchiefs, Silver-ware, Leather Goods, Stationery, Gloves, Calendars and Cards, Gramophones, Slippers, Laces, etc.

Why not pay a visit of inspection this week to this Treasure House for Gift-goods—it's not a moment too soon to commence the present buying—and those to friends abroad should be forwarded immediately. The following suggestions are worth noting:—

ANTIMONY WARE.—Glove Boxes, Handkerchief Boxes, Tea Caddies, Jewel Boxes, Cigar and Cigarette Boxes, Candle Sticks, and other useful articles in best quality Antimony.

PHOTO-FRAMES.—Best quality thin gilt Photo Frames, with white moire silk mounts; various sizes; from 3s. 6d.

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CRETONNE NOVELTIES.—Blotters, Handkerchief Boxes, Lace Boxes, Extending Jewel Cases, Work Baskets, Paper Bins, in newest designs of French Cretonne.

1,000-DAY CLOCK.—Electric—no winding—practically silent. Goes in any position. 52s. 6d.

FURS.—The "Patricia." Kolinsky Sable Stole, Russian Sable colour, trimmed tails and paws, 59s. 6d. Muff, trimmed heads and tails, 73s. 6d.

GLOVES.—Ladies' 2-button real Mocha Gloves, in tan, beaver or grey. 2s. 11d. pair, or 6" pairs in a handsome box for 17s.

SYPHON STANDS.—Electro-plated Syphon Stands in very handsome pierced designs—most exceptional value, 11s. 6d.

FITTED DRESSING CASES.—Ladies' Dressing Cases in real Morocco, beautifully fitted in silver. Price £5 12s. 6d.

CARD CASE.—Gentleman's Novel Combination Card Case, for cards, stamps and gold coins—in plain silver, 32s. 6d.

GRAMOPHONES.—"His Master's Voice" Hornless Gramophones, from £4.

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FRIDAY, November 21, 1913.

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

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

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

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

"BATTERED INTO OBEDIENCE."

Larkin is free! While we are heartily glad that the Irish workers have obtained this victory; while we congratulate them and their leaders on the triumph they have won; we cannot but protest, as it has been necessary for us to do upon many occasions lately, against the extraordinary lack of principle in those who govern us.

Consider what is being done *now*, while the comfortable Briton is going about his business and occasionally as he reads the story of other lands lifting up his eyes, like one of old time, and thanking God that his nation is not as these others—cruel, unjust, wasteful; and then try and estimate the harm that is being wrought by the Government's cynical indifference to anything but Party interests.

In Dublin gaol at the present moment there are we hear no less than 159 prisoners convicted and sentenced for offences arising out of the strikes in that unhappy city. Twenty of these are women. A Suffrage prisoner, who does not happen to be a leader, is being forcibly fed. Our Mrs. Harvey, though very ill, was made to serve in the second division to the utmost limit of her sentence. Lansbury cannot move, may not speak in any public hall, without the unwelcome attentions of detectives and police. A number of unconsidered persons who have been subjected to torture in prison are being rearrested, set free, and arrested again under the abominable Cat and Mouse Bill. To the big-hearted Irish leader, who, to do him justice, never asked for mercy—mercy and the King's pardon and practical permission to repeat as often as he pleases the offence for which he was sentenced are given. Why has this special favour been shown to him?

We scan the papers. They answer this riddle in accordance with the views of their political supporters. The Tory papers declare in chorus that had it not been for certain Liberal defeats, certain impending bye-elections, and the urgent necessity at this critical moment for the Party in power to stand well with the people, Larkin would still be in prison.

Liberal speakers, virtuous as usual, take pains to explain that an ardent love of justice has moved them to action. At Colston Hall, Bristol, Mr. Birrell was really plaintive as he sought to set himself and Dublin Castle right with the public. *The Times* had said that there should have been no trial at all. He was bound to respect such an opinion coming from such a source. But he had to consider still more "the main duty, the primary duty, the overwhelming duty" of an executive officer—upholding the civil power, the police, keeping the soldiers in their barracks. Larkin had been tried; he had been found guilty on one count only—seditious speech. How about Tom Mann? How about George Lansbury? Was their offence any worse? And Annie Kenney—why not extend the King's pardon to her?

Mr. Birrell has no other reason to give for Larkin's

release than that in his opinion the time he had served—sixteen days out of seven months—was full enough on the evidence on which he was found guilty.

Turn to other speakers. Miss Asquith, in her amusing address to the Brixton Liberal Association, permits us all to "agree now that sedition is rather a mediæval offence." Therefore she can honestly rejoice that Larkin is free.

Sir Walter Runciman, however, gives the most astounding explanation. He, unconsciously, no doubt, lets the cat out of the bag when expressing his satisfaction at Larkin's release; he says this seditious speaker and tireless agitator "was safer outside than inside." To whom is he less dangerous? To the Government, of course, who have been losing votes and adherents all over the country. But he gives a further reason, which strikes one as witnessing to the fact that he has made a discovery. "Apart altogether from the personal and political aspect"—how fond these persons have become suddenly of the people's hero!—"there never has been any good done by battering a man into obedience." Then, warmed to enthusiasm by his theme, he remembers how John Burns—now a prominent member of the Cabinet and a well-behaved citizen—had gone to prison for the same offence.

But, seriously, do these people imagine that the women of the country are fools enough not to see through them?

"A man is never battered into obedience." So they say.

We answer, he is wholly a contemptible creature if he is. We pity the poor slave, the crouching cur, who, feeling physical force against him and dreading physical uneasiness, falls prone at the feet of his self-appointed masters and implores them to do as they will with him. "A man is not battered into obedience."

But, woman! Oh! yes; they know her so well; they have studied her so deeply. How is it possible that they can make any mistake? She is disobedient. She dares to defy the authority of the master, whom— heaven help her!—she has put over her own head. Bring up the battering-ram. Use it without mercy—no King's pardon for her—in the long last she will be compelled to confess that her tyrant is stronger than she is, and, in all humility, she will obey his behests.

Do they—can they—think that this is woman? It would almost seem so; else, why does the coarse battering-ram of Government continue to descend on the heads and hearts of women? Severity—and always severity! Crush the rebellion! Bring it to an end! Terrify, imprison, torture, give to these tax-resisters, to these obstructors of the police, the full measure of punishment!

It does not seem to have succeeded altogether; therefore a little more severity; longer punishments; renewal of forcible feeding; even such suggestions as that of Lord Claud Hamilton: "a solitary hulk in the Solent" might be tried. Sooner or later she will come down from her heroics, which is merely a passing phase! Sooner or later she will return to her womanly duty of obedience.

Fools and blind! Why, even the scientist, the student of psychology, might tell them that if men are not to be quelled into obedience by battering-rams, women—the women who are awake, though some, alas! sleep still—are far less likely to yield to such pressure.

Woman, who can be so gentle and patient when it is a question of the weak things—babes and children, the sick and the helpless—has in her a power of resistance that, even to this day, those who would compel her submission, have not been able to estimate.

But this can be easily understood, for they move on different planes. Police, magistrates, gaolers, the Government that pays them, and the hooligans, growing fewer every day, who howl and shriek with joy over her apparent discomfiture—these, and such as these, are steeped to the lips in materialism. Their force is physical. They have not even the heaven-born instinct of the birds and four-footed creatures who respect the

mother in their mates. And against them—making their prisons, their tortures, their battering-rams of unjust laws and stupid judiciary unavailing—there is the force of deathless, dauntless, ageless spirit. "You can kill, you cannot defeat us," says the awakened woman, looking calmly at those who would force her to obey laws to which she has not consented. "Pain does not frighten us. Death it may be—we cannot tell—will open to us modes of high service that have been denied to us here. We stand where we are—rebels—we can do no other until you do justice."

That is the spirit which runs through the woman's movement of to-day; and against it brute-force—the battering-ram of the authorities—beats itself in vain.

Says A. E. in his noble letter in *The Daily Herald* of Nov. 14: "I am not of those who wish to bring about a peace of God without any understanding, and I and all true spirits will fight with all our power against the fanatics who would bludgeon us into their heaven, to bow to their savage conception of a Deity."

With all our hearts we echo those words.

Against the battering into obedience of women and the indulgent treatment of men, both convicted for manifesting the same spirit and doing kindred deeds, the Women's Freedom League made a fine protest, on the steps leading from Downing-street to the Horse Guards' Parade, on Sunday, November 16, after their great meeting at the Caxton Hall. C. DESPARD.

THE SCIENCE OF FORGIVENESS. A DUOLOGUE BY WINIFRED ST. CLAIR.

[Permission to perform this duologue must be obtained in writing from the authoress.]

Characters :
ANTHONY BURT ... A Lawyer.
MOLLY ... His Wife.

Scene : BURT'S STUDY.

[BURT seated with papers.]

Enter MOLLY.

MOLLY : Are you busy, Tony?
BURT : No, just looking up the divorce suit for to-morrow. She'll lose it.

MOLLY : Is he guilty?
BURT : Guilty? Over and over again—but we can do nothing for her.

MOLLY : Why don't you do something to alter the law?
BURT : It isn't my business to alter the law; I get my living by it. [Throwing aside papers, lighting pipe or cigar.]

MOLLY [taking up papers] : Something has happened which interests me in the subject of divorce.

BURT : You're not suspecting me, I hope
MOLLY : My dear!

BURT : Then, it's confession on your part, eh?
MOLLY : When you are serious—
BURT : I'm serious now.

MOLLY : I want you to be garrulous and talkative.
BURT : Oh? What about?

BURT : About my first marriage—whatever makes you bring up that?
MOLLY : You have never told me much about the—your divorce suit, and you can't say I have shown much curiosity. I believe you spared her all the—the publicity you could—for her sake and her family's.

BURT : My own sake, too; it was not the proudest moment of my life.

MOLLY : I never heard her name till yesterday.
BURT [suddenly] : Where did you hear it yesterday?
MOLLY : Oh, somewhere.

BURT : Who told it you?
MOLLY : Oh, someone. Tony, is not your friend, Tom Bendyshe, coming in this evening?

BURT : I think so. Why?
MOLLY : What time?

BURT [looking at watch] : He should be here soon. But why?
MOLLY : I have heard something about him, too. [BURT starts.] I hope he won't ring the front-door bell before we've done our talk!

BURT [rising] : What do you mean? [Near her.] What do you mean?
MOLLY : They tell me he, your eronic, the brilliant writer, the popular favourite, he is the man who robbed you of your wife.

BURT : Who told you this?
MOLLY : Someone I met. And you have forgiven him.

BURT : Yes, I have forgiven him. [Crossing.] It wasn't an easy thing to do, nor did I do it quickly; I have learnt to make allowances—"we are none of us perfect," and all that.

I suppose I ought not to mind this little secret coming out, eh, Molly? It's the kind of thing I should have to praise in another man, I feel. So you think I've done a handsome thing?

MOLLY : Oh, I don't know.
BURT : You don't?

MOLLY : I could praise your forgiveness more, Tony, had it been for a single sin—if Bendyshe had broken your strong-box or slandered you shamefully; anything rather than seduce your wife.

BURT : Oh, but you mustn't be too squeamish; after all the world is the world.

MOLLY : And you are fitted with another wife.
BURT : You are surely not going to take this personally?
MOLLY : Oh no, dear, I was thinking of the first one. Where is she now?

BURT : I couldn't say, I'm sure. Safe, I suppose, in the bosom of her family.

MOLLY : How coldly you can speak, Tony, of a woman you have loved!

BURT : The woman I do love should surely bless my singleness of heart. Come, won't you flirt with me a little, just to keep your hand in? [Sitting.]

MOLLY : No, no, I want to be serious.
BURT : My dear, so do I; a flirtation between husband and wife is surely as serious as civilisation?

MOLLY : I want to talk.
BURT : I want to smoke; don't bother me. [Putting out stretched foot on stool.]

MOLLY : Come, Tony, talk a little. Phew! Blow your smoke the other way. [Fondling him.] There, now I am flirting with you. But won't you talk?

BURT : Perhaps, but not about my magnanimity.
MOLLY : Oh, won't you talk about your magnanimity? Not to your friend?

BURT : Well, what do you want to know about it, then?
MOLLY : Tony, was your first wife handsomer than I?

BURT : I think she was. I was proud of her beauty when first I called it mine. I loved the woman, Molly; loved the woman.

MOLLY : You loved her more than you love me?
BURT : It was a different love; I don't think it was better, but while it lasted it was mightier. You understand. And then, when life resumed its normal flow, she was so different from you. There is nothing more irritating than to have a person with less brain-power than yourself trying to claim and share your mind; and—you can understand—she was a bore.

MOLLY : Perhaps she "loved not wisely but too well."
BURT : And you don't love too well, eh?

MOLLY : Sir, I love you wisely. May be she had no other interests to balance you as I have. The safeguard of wedded happiness is a secondary interest.

BURT : Is that it? Well, as long as the secondary interest doesn't take human form—

MOLLY : Which brings us back to your magnanimity. Tony, why did you forgive Tom Bendyshe?

BURT : Oh, because he's so—so literary and well known, and so intelligent and witty, and such a pleasing fellow. He's a valuable friend to me.

MOLLY : And friends are rare. [Moving.] Tony, I have met a woman lately of whom I too should like to make a friend.

BURT : Who is she?
MOLLY : And I want to have her here.
BURT : Well, but who is she?

MOLLY : Guess.
BURT : I can't.
MOLLY : She is your first wife.

BURT [rising] : What? Good heavens! You never mean it? Do you really want—? Oh no, I can't; I—oh, what is your reason?

MOLLY : She is so intelligent and interesting, and such a pleasing woman; and, after all, the world is the world.

BURT : Have you gone mad?
MOLLY : No, I think not. Tony, I argue this way: If he is good enough for you, she's good enough for me.

BURT : Is this a point we have to fight?
MOLLY : A point on which I have my strong convictions.

BURT : She wronged me, the woman wronged me, and I can't forgive her—no, I can't forgive her.

MOLLY : She would still be divorced, you know. I don't propose—

BURT : No, no, of course you don't, but you require me—

MOLLY : Tony, I require you to do nothing; if you are willing she shall come, not otherwise. This is what I mean: the man comes here—is coming here to-night; you welcome him. I don't complain of that; I only say that unless she may come and be welcomed too, I refuse to touch hands with Tom Bendyshe.

BURT : Molly, you're double; I'm amazed at you! You say you refuse—you propose to insult a friend of mine on my own hearth, and yet pretend you don't require—

MOLLY : Don't let us squabble, Tony; let us talk it out; let's talk it out. [Persuading him to sit and smoke again.]

BURT : Well, talk away, I'm listening. [Sitting.]

(To be continued.)

SUPPORT THOSE ADVERTISERS WHO SUPPORT US.

MESSAGE FROM MRS. HARVEY.

Dear Comrades,—I much regret that circumstances prevented my being with you on Sunday to thank you for the medal and basket of lovely flowers. I wished also to thank you for the strenuous work done during my absence, and for your support of the entertainment given for THE VOTE. I know all was done for the Cause we love better than life—the Cause of women and children—but in many ways you have shown so much regard for me personally that it has gone straight to my heart. Spoken words at the best are poor; written words are poorer than the poorest spoken ones. Mine are the outcome of deep emotion, but it is quite impossible to convey to you in cold print that which I feel. "To do what one cannot help doing deserves no praise"; but human sympathy *does* strengthen and uplift: strengthen for renewed effort, uplift to a better fight.—Yours in the Cause,
KATE HARVEY.

SUNDAY "AT HOME," CAXTON HALL.

Judging by the large and enthusiastic gathering in the Council Chamber at the Caxton Hall on November 16, members and friends evidently appreciate an occasional Sunday afternoon meeting, and the friendly talk over tea was much enjoyed. One of the special interests of the afternoon was to be the presentation of the W.F.L. prison badge to Mrs. Harvey for her courageous resistance to taxation without representation, and bouquets from the Freedom League and the Tax Resistance League. To the disappointment of everyone Mrs. Harvey was unable to be present, but the presentations were made on her behalf to Mrs. Despard. Miss Housman, who has "resisted unto Holloway," speaking on behalf of the Tax Resistance League, said that Mrs. Harvey had gone through more than any other member of the League, and the flowers were an affectionate tribute to her courage and determination. Miss Boyle, head of the Political and Militant Department, presented the Prison Badge, and Miss Eunice Murray the Freedom League's floral tribute—a beautiful basket of arum lilies, lilies of the valley and roses, most artistically carried out by Messrs. Alexander and Co., 16, Brook-street, W. Mrs. Despard undertook to convey the gifts and the messages to Mrs. Harvey. Mrs. Harvey's answer appears above.

Another attraction of the afternoon was the Rev. Hatty Baker's lecture, full of insight and illumination, on "Ibsen's Influence on the Woman's Movement." After a brief summary of his life, with special references to the influences of his childhood and the devotion of his wife, Miss Baker dealt principally with the women of Ibsen's plays, and showed how they stood for a definite idea in woman's realisation of her individuality through the circumstances of life. The "Doll's House" she declared to be the tragedy of marriage; as dolls are to a child, so is the petted, shielded, undeveloped wife of Helmer, sharing neither his work, his troubles, nor his joys. Higher instincts awake when her husband discovers her sin of forgery for his sake, and is angry because of the degradation it will mean in the eyes of his friends. To his declaration as she leaves him: "Before all else you are a wife and a mother," Nora replies, "I am a human being as much as you," and she breaks the degrading bonds of such a marriage. "Ghosts," said Miss Baker, is supplementary to "Doll's House" showing the widow shielding her husband's evil character and the hollowness of the conditions on which such a home is built. In "The Wild Duck" Ibsen deals with the equal moral responsibility of the sexes, and "Hedda Gabler" shows the soul awake enough to see the need for betterment, but not alive enough to carry it out. "The race must be reformed or die; the 'Hedda Gabler' die." In his invective against the hollowness of society, his call to woman to be an independent human being, his insistence on her development and enfranchisement, the great Norwegian rendered splendid service to the woman's movement. "Send us an English Ibsen, some master spirit to help us forward into freedom!" was Miss Baker's final cry.

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The FUTURE OF THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT?

By Mrs. H. M. SWANWICK, M.A.

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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

Sweating Horrors.

A conference in the interests of sweated workers and trade boards was held on November 17 at Sunderland House, the residence of the Duchess of Marlborough, who presided. Its object was to assist the workers in the trades just brought under the operation of the Trade Boards Act, to secure adequate representation on the Boards, and to raise funds for the purpose of organising the sweated workers and furthering the work undertaken by the National Anti-Sweating League and the Women's Trade Union League in connection with the establishment of additional boards.

The Duchess of Marlborough, in the course of her address from the chair, observed that the number of women workers was increasing, and that single women needed a wage of 15s. a week for the minimum requirements. In organised industries there were probably over 300,000 women who earned less than 12s. for a whole week's employment. In London many women earned only 6s. a week, and they were bound to admit there were thousands of women and girls who were suffering actual hunger, want, and destitution, although they were working every available hour the full year out.

They had been told that since the Insurance Act had been in operation women were making heavy claims on the sickness funds of friendly societies, and that, alarmed by these heavy payments, some of these societies were inclined to believe women were malingering. The excessive claims were not to be attributed to malingering among women, but to genuine sickness caused through overwork, under-nourishment, and the general stress and strain of their lives.

Mr. Masterman, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said that the work of the Trade Boards would be extended to women workers in the confectionery trades, and in the finishing trades, such as those of Belfast.

The Bishop of Oxford's Rebuke to the Churches.

Dr. Gore, addressing the Conference, administered a stern rebuke to the Churches. He said:—

"We have been trying to pick up the wounded and heal them in the industrial struggle—not very efficiently, but we have been trying constantly to do that—but we have almost altogether neglected the prior duty to thundering at the gates of tyranny. We have not stood up for the poor. Why was it left to such as Mr. Larkin when there was a Church in Dublin which claims so rightly to be the Church of the poor—why was it left to Mr. Larkin to call attention to the appalling conditions in Dublin industries?"

He did not think they could look back with pride in those matters on the progress of their Church, and the revival of Church life in this country. There was a great act of reparation and of repentance which it was not too late for them to make.

Recently, Dr. Gore added, they had called together what they proposed to call the Council of Christian Witness on Moral and Economic Subjects, composed of people representing the various branches of Christian society. They would shortly issue a manifesto on the subject of the living wage, and he hoped and earnestly wished that the Christian conscience of the country would respond to the appeal that would be made.

The appeal for funds brought in between £600 and £700, Lord Stratheona and Mr. John Galsworthy each giving £100.

The Dangers of the Insurance Act.

Miss Margaret Douglas, the intrepid opponent of the Insurance Act, gave further revelations of the failure of the Act at the monthly meeting of the Women's Tax Resistance League, on November 6, at Dr. Octavia Lewin's house in Wimpole-street. She dwelt mainly on Part II. (unemployment section), and warned her audience that it might any day, without any further Act of Parliament, be extended to women. The worker is in the grip of a force that cannot be escaped. The power of the employer is increased, in that he can deprive a worker of six weeks' unemployment benefit by defaming his character. If a striker tries to get work in another town he must show his card, and is therefore a marked man. To guard against loss, several employers had dismissed their staff and taken them on at a lower rate of wages, in one case the reduction being 1s. per week. In the case of underpaid women the 3d. stamp meant a meal less or some equal sacrifice.

A LECTURE will be given by

E. B. LLOYD, Esq.,

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LIFE IN A BOOTH (To-day).

By MARK MELFORD.

The Author hopes Franchise friends will avail themselves of the Post-free plan adopted (Suffragettes only). Volumes dispatched direct 1/- net (P.O. or 12 Stamps) from (Suite 648) Waldorf Hotel (Mrs. Bradshaw) and Sedgford Road, Shepherd's Bush.

JACKYDAWRA, Secretary.

SCOTTISH BOOKBINDING STRIKE.

OBJECT—TO EXCLUDE WOMEN FROM TRADE.

The threatened strike in the Scottish bookbinding trade has now become an accomplished fact. Glasgow and Edinburgh claim the vast majority of the Union membership, and the fight will be confined to these two areas. The men's demands are for the exclusion of female and non-apprenticed male labour. The Glasgow masters have resolved to adhere to their decision to refuse the men's claims, but one of the principal firms in Edinburgh, employing seventy-five men, has adopted what it calls "the neutral attitude," which consists of agreeing to accept the result of the strike, which is to say that if the men win, this form of employment will be closed to women; and doubtless other firms will sooner or later concede the men's claims. I should like to point out how serious a wrong this would be to women. According to the latest returns of the Scottish Census (1911) we find under the heading "Bookbinding," that 1,658 men are employed as against 4,023 women. These figures demonstrate the absurdity of calling bookbinding a men's trade, and we must see that this door is not closed to women. It is for women, not men, to decide what kind of labour they undertake, what business they are to work and under what conditions. So we back the Glasgow employers, and hope that they will continue steadfast in their determination not to give in to the men, not to allow women to be ousted because of male jealousy and unreasonableness. E. G. M.

ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Traffic in Women. C. Nina Boyle. (Women's Freedom League. 1d.)

Miss Boyle's pamphlet of "unchallenged facts and figures" is a terrible reading. If one did not know that the woman's movement was at work as a cleansing leaven in the mud and cruelty of these Augean stables of the world, this pamphlet would bring nothing but despair. But so long as there are women who have the courage to cry aloud against these horrors, so long as there are women fearless enough to conduct a relentless war against this great combine of vice and drink and greed, there is hope for better things. Miss Boyle shows, in language that is simple and direct to the point of terseness, the wide-spread nature of the infamous traffic in women and girl children. She points out how the drink traffic is involved in its ramifications, how the Press derives support from it by the bogus advertisements that bring grist to the business manager's mill, how public money is invested in it, how it underlies many commercial transactions that are looked upon as honest and legitimate business—a veritable vicious circle in which millions of women and little girls are trapped to death and the public health poisoned and undermined. Was there ever such a terrible indictment against the system of rule and control that has been built up by men? In the fierce red glare that is thrown by this pamphlet on man's inhumanity—how inadequate a word!—to woman, woman's so-called "violence" to property looks blameless indeed!

"The Traffic in Women" shows a cancerous sore in the body politic. If the body is not to die of that loathsome disease it must be cut out root and branch. This is not a case for lavender water and *sal volatile*, it is a case for the knife. If Miss Boyle's services to the woman's movement went no further than the writing of this invaluable book, she would still have done inestimable good. A fearless, unexaggerated statement of this kind is "without money and without price." The thanks of all men and women who love purity and hate cruelty and lust are due to her.

The Home-Breakers. (Hurst and Blackett. 6s.)

This book is written by a "well-known novelist who wishes to remain anonymous." That will surprise no one who reads

The Women's Freedom League

HOLDS

PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CAXTON HALL

Every Wednesday Afternoon at 3.30.

NOVEMBER 26th—

Speaker: J. MALCOLM MITCHELL, Esq.

"The Growth of the Suffrage among Men."

Chair: MRS. TANNER.

ADMISSION FREE.

it, for it is neither fish, flesh, fowl, nor good red-herring! It certainly will not redound to the credit of any well-known novelist. As a story it is trumpery; as an argument it is wanting in logic, sequence, and truth. The author has Suffragist sympathies and sufficient insight to see the reasons underlying the women's revolt against their unenfranchised condition. She—for the anonymity of the writer is easily pierced—sees that women have what she calls "stern facts to face," but she asks for the reader's sympathy and admiration for a woman who betrays her cause and sex for a purely personal advantage. She so little understands the temper of a hunger-striker that she depicts such a one as saying, "They forcibly fed me once, and I gave in on the spot." "I was glad that you paid the fine. I don't care who paid it so long as it was paid, and I'm not going back to Holloway. . . . I'm in it—but—but—but—I'm fed up!" And the author invites applause for this sort of stuff!

Her heroines are all of them surprisingly beautiful, with "appealing" eyes and "gorgeous" hair, and her heroes are "distinguished" and "lean" and possess "colossal strength with a mingling of sweetness," and have "all the Englishman's dread of emotional displays, especially in public!" And their doings will not disappoint any reader who admires that type of man. M. H.

MEN'S MANDATE MEETING IN EDINBURGH.

The great mass meeting held under the auspices of the Edinburgh Centre of the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage in the Synod Hall on November 14, was a brilliant termination to the first half of the autumn campaign in Scotland. The great hall was filled with an enthusiastic audience, and the Councils of Edinburgh and Glasgow were represented on the platform, also prominent citizens, and well-known Suffragists of all Societies. Messages of encouragement were read from Lord Brassey, Lord Willoughby de Broke, Lord Lytton, the Bishop of Kensington, Mr. George Lansbury, Mr. Zangwill, Mrs. Flora Annie Steele, Mr. Laurence Housman, and others. The stewards, members of the Federation, wore rosettes in the National colours, to emphasise the National demand for the Men's Mandate.

Councillor Bruce Lindsay occupied the chair, and the speakers included Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett, Sir John Cockburn, Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, Baillie Alston, J.P., Councillors Murray, Cameron, Crawford, Barrie, and ex-Baillie Gordon.

The Chairman gave an instance of the subtle persecution which still pursues the Suffragist movement. A contract had been made with the Edinburgh Tramway Co. for the space on the tram doors to advertise the meeting for seven days in succession. After the bills had been on the doors for five days they suddenly and mysteriously disappeared, and on inquiry it was found that one of the Directors, an anti-Suffragist, had given orders for the bills to be immediately removed. A proceeding which Councillor Bruce Lindsay described as "arrogant and tyrannical." Cries of "shame" and "name" from all parts of the hall.

Baillie Alston, Glasgow, said that Parliament would never understand the position of the child and the woman until they took women into partnership in legislation, not only on the voters' roll, but on the floor of the House of Commons.

Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck declared that militancy had cast the limelight upon the ghastly condition of affairs in this country that held property as a sacred thing, and that life was comparatively of no consequence.

What the Women's Vote had Done

Sir John Cockburn, K.C., M.G., lately Premier of South Australia, who introduced the women's franchise Bill in that country, and carried it through Parliament, said that by the canons of our Constitution not only was the present system unjust, but it was absolutely unconstitutional. (Applause). To say that men knew better than women what was good for them was the argument of tyranny. It was absurd that women should be Mayors, Provosts, and Aldermen, and yet be considered incapable of exercising the Parliamentary vote. People had said that the women's vote was a failure in Australia, and the Australians were so annoyed at this that they passed a resolution in the Commonwealth Parliament that the extension of the suffrage to women had had most beneficial results.

Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett, the founder of the Federation, who had a very hearty reception, read a telegram from Ellen Terry. "My heart is with you in your highest aims." She said that no body of social reformers in the world had worked harder and longer than the women suffragists. What the Federation was now out to demand was that woman's suffrage should be in the King's Speech in 1914.

"I thought that Scotland was strong on the Liberal side," remarked one of the speakers afterwards, when discussing the enthusiasm of the audience. "It seems to have changed very much." No! Scotland has not changed. She stands where she did, and so do her men, and that is why they have organised to give a Mandate for a Liberal Measure.

A mass meeting is to be held later on in Glasgow, where last week a deputation of the Federation waited upon the Town Council. The Lord Provost in reply said that the Glasgow Corporation was among the first to move in favour of Woman Suffrage; it carried a resolution unanimously in August, 1910, and sent a delegate to a conference in London on the subject.

OUR OPEN COLUMN.

* * * Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.

A SERVICE STRIKE BY WOMEN.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

DEAR MADAM.—It is now six months since I resigned my seat on the local Education Committee, and went "on strike," as a protest against the treatment which women's demand for the Suffrage has received at the hands of the Government. At that time I invited other women, who felt as I did, to follow my example, and to refuse to the present to help in any public and philanthropic work of any kind by giving either time or money to any other cause than that of Women's Suffrage. Six months has been long enough for me to see how numerous are the different points at which we can make such a protest felt.

There are many women with greater leisure and wealth than myself whose withdrawal from public work would be far more effective, and it is to induce them to follow a similar course that I now write. Even in my case, the list of societies affected is a fairly long one. I have temporarily withdrawn my subscription from:—The Proportional Representative Society, the Blind Society, Hospital Linen Fund, Roman Catholic Orphanage, Salvation Army, Mothers' Institute, Gordon Boys' Home, Seamens' Mission, Seaside Camps for Boys, Home Workers' Aid Association, Fresh Air Holiday Fund, Bible Society, University Settlement, Local Hospital, &c. This is only during the slack season. During the winter, and especially at Christmas time, the appeals are likely to be much more numerous.

In each case my refusal to give has been accompanied by a letter, or an interview, giving my reason for so doing, and inviting men who value women's help to prove it by helping us now to get the vote as quickly as possible. I have also kept an account of the money saved in this way, and sent it at intervals to various Suffrage societies.

Such a protest, carried out by one person, has little effect beyond making that one person unpopular. But if fifty in one small town would do the same, such action would make itself felt; much more, therefore, if five thousand, or fifty thousand, did the same all over England.

It is not the refusal of money alone, but the refusal of service that I felt most important. Let those women who agree with me decline to give a tray at a tea-meeting, to take the chair at a Band of Hope, to teach in Sunday-school (superintendents are nearly always men), to speak at a Sisterhood meeting, to work for bazaars, to play in the orchestra at church on festival occasions, or to help with mothers' meetings or district visiting. Let them resign from all Care Committees, Boards of Managers, Lecture Societies, Oxford and Cambridge Local Examination Committees, school clinics, &c., &c.; and let them accompany such refusal to work, in each case, with a letter of explanation.

I appeal to all women: Do not sit still and do nothing, but try my plan for a year. It is men who will give us the vote; they must be made anxious to do so at once by discovering how difficult it is to get the work done which women have undertaken in the past.—Yours truly,
INSUBRISTO.

THE "PROTECTED" SEX.
OUR CRIMINAL COURTS

At the Old Bailey.

Ellen Lucas (23), pleaded Guilty to throwing corrosive fluid on John A. Allen. Prisoner said Allen had seduced her under the promise of marriage, and on Sunday, October 19, while he was with his wife at St. Pancras Station, she threw the fluid at him. He was not seriously injured, but the judge, Mr. Lawrence, sentenced her to **twelve months' second division**, saying, piously: "I hope I am doing the best thing for you and your child." "May the Lord punish all men who ruin girls!" was her cry as she left the dock.

Harriet Leary (25), charged with throwing corrosive fluid on Thomas Falce, because he had seduced her and deserted her. Prosecutor lost the sight of one eye. He had told her that when he returned from America he would "buy an organ and use the baby instead of a monkey." With pious expressions of doing his best for her, Mr. Justice Lawrence sentenced her to **twelve months' hard labour**.

George Butcher, indecently assaulting Archibald Warren on November 1, **acquitted**.

Ernest Dallinder (21) attempted to poison his sweetheart, Norah Lennon, by giving her spirits of salts to drink. The

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OVEN."

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jury said they thought he "only meant to frighten her!" He was therefore **acquitted**. [It does not seem to be a punishable offence to poison a person with the intention of frightening her!] Sidney Cohen, found guilty of committing gross indecency with Fred Manley—**fourteen days**.

Two men, named Hugo (42) and Adams (21) were accused of gross indecency. Hugo had absconded and could not be found. Adams was **discharged**.

Edward Flowers, charged before Common Serjeant with unlawfully wounding Liberia Rea in a quarrel. **Eight months hard labour**.

Mrs. Mary Friend and Miss May Hampden were charged before the Common Serjeant with intimidating a Mrs. Simmonds on October 10. A strike of bookbinders had taken place at Messrs. Burns, of Kirby-street, Hatton-garden, and the prisoners were on picket duty, and it is alleged that they followed Mrs. Simmonds, who was working, booing and hissing, leading a crowd of women and girls. Both prisoners pleaded Not guilty. The summing-up of the judge was biased and unfair. He read the evidence for the prosecution almost verbatim, and discounted every item of the defence. Mary Friend was found **Not guilty**, and May Hampden was **bound over**, in £20, for twelve months. The prosecution was undertaken at the instance of the firm.

C. James Oberst, for intimidating a man striker in the same dispute. He pleaded Guilty, and was given **fourteen days**, and **bound over in £20 for twelve months**.

THE ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF WOMEN.

Despite the inclement weather a very interested audience came to hear the Rev. W. Moritz Weston speak on this subject last Monday evening. Dr. Weston contended that home was one barrier to women's independence because they always had it to fall back upon. The home had been described as "a prison for spinsters and a workhouse for married women." He thought that hope for the future lay in training girls of the present generation to be self-reliant, and in spreading amongst them feminist literature. Women's outlook on life had to be altered and wider interests encouraged than were possible within the four walls of the home. Dr. Weston advocated co-operative housekeeping, municipal creches, the endowment of motherhood, and the training of children by experienced teachers rather than by women who have no aptitude in bringing up children. Dr. Weston also said some hard things about suburban women, their narrow outlook on life and their petty interests. The discussion was lively and continued until nearly 10.30 p.m.

Important.—Will readers kindly note that the office hours of the Minerva Publishing Company, from Monday to Friday, are 9.30 a.m. to 6 p.m., and on Saturdays 9.30 to 1 p.m. There is inevitable delay in dealing with telegrams and letters arriving after office hours.

Chapter 14

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MANCHESTER'S DISGRACE.

By the narrow majority of nine votes—51 to 42—the Manchester City Council rejected the proposal that Miss Margaret Ashton should be appointed to a vacancy on the Watch Committee. This is a disgrace to a progressive city which ought to be quickly wiped out. Miss Ashton has rendered splendid service as a Councillor; to reject her influence and help on the Watch Committee shows a narrowness of spirit not to be expected of Manchester. There are evidently some citizens who pretend to protect the delicacy of women, on one hand, while they thrust them down to degradation on the other. We are glad to note that the value of women's service on the Council was emphasised in the discussion, and the raising of tone which had resulted; but it clearly needs to be raised higher still and the rejection of the needed service of a woman rendered impossible.

MRS. DESPARD IN LIVERPOOL.

That Mrs. Despard has hosts of friends and admirers in Liverpool was shown by the crowds which filled the Aintree Institute on Wednesday, November 12, and the hundreds who were reluctantly turned away when every available seat had been filled. The audience was remarkable, not only for its size, but for its intensely sympathetic spirit. Mr. John Edwards, to whom the Suffrage Cause in Liverpool owes a deep debt of gratitude, made a most able chairman. Mrs. Cousins' charming personality, together with her delightful Irish wit and quaint touch of the brogue, put the meeting into a good humour at the outset, and when she struck a deeper note and spoke of the Women's Movement as a searchlight turned upon the great problems of the day the audience responded with enthusiastic applause.

Mrs. Despard had a great reception. At times during her speech the attention was so tense that one might have heard the proverbial pin drop; then great bursts of applause showed a point thrust home or an argument neatly turned. After describing the policy and methods of the Women's Freedom League Mrs. Despard spoke of the deep spiritual forces behind the campaign for the vote. The vote was the symbol of citizenship, the key which opened new doors of service for humanity. Men and women standing together in the State must build a new Jerusalem, the Golden City that is to be. A resolution condemning forcible feeding and demanding a Government measure for Woman Suffrage was carried with one dissentient. Copies have been sent to the Premier, the Home Secretary, and Mr. Bonar Law, the Member for the division.

On Thursday, November 13, Mrs. Despard was the guest of honour at a luncheon arranged by the Liverpool Vegetarian Society. In a speech after the luncheon Mrs. Cousins described her as the "Queen Mother of Freedom," the arch reformer. Mrs. Despard, in reply, spoke of the unity of spirit behind all reform, and described the Women's Movement as a great training-ground for reformers of all kinds.

NATIONAL WEEK OF PRAYER.

Further news has been received of the meeting held in connection with the Week of Prayer. We hear that meetings were held throughout Scotland—in Edinburgh, Perth, Dundee, Aberdeen, Inverness, Dunbar, Troon and Leven. In Edinburgh, under the auspices of the Scottish Churches League for Woman Suffrage, a Devotional Meeting for Women was held on Sunday, November 2; and a public evening meeting on November 6, in the Oak Hall, Princes-street. Rev. James Black, M.A., chairman, gave an address, also the Rev. C. M. Black, of the Church League (Edinburgh branch), and Miss Williamson, M.A.; a most helpful intercessory service was conducted by the Rev. G. S. Stewart, M.A. There was a good attendance, and at the close, all united in singing the Suffrage Hymn.

The Women Writers' Suffrage League held a meeting on "the Spiritual and Moral Side of the Woman's Movement," on November 4, at 16, John-street, W.C. The Rev. Dr. Cobb gave a thoughtful and earnest address on "Woman as the Bearer of Spiritual Life."

Miss Abadam pointed out that the whole movement was spiritual and moral. Women were fighting for the spiritual freedom of women and children whose environment gave them no chance of spirituality. Miss Josephine Knowles spoke on the duty of the Churches towards the Woman's Movement.

The First Woman Provost in Scotland.

At the first meeting of the newly-constituted Town Council of Dollar Mrs. Malcolm was unanimously elected Provost. She thanked her colleagues for the high honour they had conferred upon her.

Mrs. Malcolm is the senior member of the present Council. She was the first lady councillor to be elected in Scotland, and has now attained the unique honour of being the first lady Provost. Mrs. Malcolm is also a member of the School Board and Parish Council, is a prominent member of the Women's Liberal Association, and is a keen and active supporter of Woman Suffrage, having frequently addressed meetings on this question.

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A POSTER PARADE BY TRAINED NURSES.

The *British Journal of Nursing* has always stood for progress, the fearless denunciation of tyranny and wrong, and the courageous proclamation of truth. It will be remembered that when the police raided "Queenie Gerald's" flat the door was opened to them by a woman calling herself "Nurse Betty," who was wearing the uniform of a trained nurse. This was the last straw on the backs of trained nurses, whose profession has been for so long stained and degraded by evil masqueraders.

It was therefore to vindicate the dishonoured profession that *The British Journal of Nursing* organised and successfully carried out a Poster Parade last Friday morning. Carrying the poster, bearing the words:—

"Trained Nurses protest against association with Queenie Gerald. Read *British Journal of Nursing*."

we paraded from the office of the Registered Nurses' Society, at 431, Oxford-street, as far as Piccadilly, where with another parader I took up my stand; the rest went to the pitches assigned to them in different parts of London. For some time I stood outside the Criterion Restaurant unmolested, then I was requested by the management to withdraw. I next stationed myself outside the notorious flat, No. 229, Piccadilly. The passers-by were mostly men. The faces of many were a study indeed—coarse, selfish, sensual. They stared at me, they read the placard, they stared again. Their astonishment, their staring and anger were all to the good. Men must know—they shall know—that women are out on a purity crusade which all their anger shall not stop. A man approached me, and requested me to leave. I inquired on whose authority; he replied on his, as he was the manager of the flats. "Then I do not acknowledge your authority," I replied. This annoyed him, and he fetched a policeman. I was standing in the gutter, but still opposite the flat, and having no power to send me away the policeman advised me to go a little further off. I complied, but it was my purpose to remain near the flat, and I did so. I sold most of my papers, and my companions did very well too. The most important result was that the public saw that trained nurses were on strike. BEATRICE KENT.

EXHIBITION OF WOMEN'S WORK AT GLASGOW.

An Exhibition of Woman's Work in all Branches, and Sale of Arts, Crafts and Industries will be held at the Zoo Buildings, Glasgow, from December 1 to 13. Daily demonstrations, also cinematograph and lantern lectures will be given in connection with the exhibits. Mrs. Despard will speak on the last evening of the exhibition. Full particulars from Mr. James M. Freer, 30, Ludgate-hill, E. C.; or from Miss F. L. Fuller, 52, New Bond-street, W.

FORCIBLE FEEDING.

Sir Thomas Barlow, President of the Royal College of Physicians, having been urged to use his influence to enable prison doctors to be relieved from the obligation of performing forcible feeding, applied to the Home Office for particulars. He was informed that the operation was in no sense punitive—to say so was a suffrage lie—but merely preventive of starvation, and carried out with skill—so he declined to interfere. Side by side with an extract from the report of “a disinterested physician,” quoted in the reply of the Home Office, we set the statement of Mary Richardson in the *Christian Commonwealth* as to the treatment she received:

I have seen the forcible feeding carried out in Holloway on several occasions, and I am certain that the wardresses do their work in a thoroughly efficient manner. The cases at which I have been present at the feeding have been scattered over a somewhat lengthened period, but in no one instance could the wardresses' work of holding the prisoner have been more humanely or efficiently carried out by asylum nurses. It is true that the resistance offered by the Suffragists is at times great and skilfully effected, but in my opinion the wardresses are thoroughly competent to carry out their duties. . . . The difference between asylum cases and the prison ones lies in the thought-out resistance which the Suffragist offers, even when efficiently held by the wardresses.

SATISFACTION A CERTAINTY.

Joan was determined to have a complete rig-out for autumn and winter. Wondering where to go, she asked my advice. “Why not try Thompson's, in Tottenham-court-road?” I said. “You will find all you want, and are sure of satisfaction.” No sooner said than done. In the spacious, well-arranged establishment we were received with unobtrusive, yet courteous attention. The costume department afforded an embarrassment of choice, but Joan decided on a charming coat and skirt in broadcated matalassie at £4 4s., a most useful purchase suitable for many occasions. The hat was the next momentous business, and she fell a victim to two—the “Carlotta,” a chic creation in black velvet and pleated silk, with a jet butterfly, for 15s. 11d.; and the “Trevenna,” in Austrian velour, with chenille cherries and gold ribbon, for 35s. 9d. The question of furs needed careful consideration, but the final choice out of an appealing variety in shape and price was a “Patricia” set—stole and muff—in black wolf, for four guineas. “The best day's shopping I have done for a long time,” was her comment; “and I am going to show my satisfaction by enclosing this little note when I write to friends:

“THREE BEAUTIFUL BOOKLETS, profusely and handsomely illustrated, have just been issued giving full descriptions of the Autumn Fashion Displays at Thompson's (near Maple's), 163-170, Tottenham-court-road, where business is advancing by leaps and bounds and where the newest and most attractive fashions are always to be found. Why not write at once for the Booklets of Millinery, Costumes, and Furs?”

Tango Teas.—Messrs. William Owen, Ltd., of Westbourne-grove, W., have devised a new interest for their customers. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. during the month of November an exhibition of Tango dancing, as it ought to be, is given by Miss Hilda Dudley and Mr. Will Bishop, jun. All that is necessary for admission is to obtain a ticket from the firm, and a pleasant finale is the Tango Tea, at which a remarkable variety of good things may be obtained for the modest outlay of 9d. It is evident that Messrs. Owen have “touched the spot” in the public interest—and their own—for the long queues of people waiting for admission to the specially-arranged Tango room cannot resist the many attractive things they see all round. Whether the Tango dresses prove irresistible depends upon the verdict of the visitor after seeing the dance skilfully carried out by Miss Dudley and Mr. Bishop, but, once inside Messrs. Owen's establishment, it is certainly difficult to escape; the value and variety in all departments cannot easily be equalled.

What Mr. McKinnon Wood Wants.

Speaking at Edinburgh on November 8 at a Scottish Home Rule demonstration Mr. McKinnon Wood, Secretary for Scotland, said he wanted a very wide franchise for the Scottish Parliament, including women.

QUALITY AND VALUE.

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

PLEASE MENTION “THE VOTE” WHEN ORDERING GOODS.

Women's Freedom League.

BRANCH AND GROUP SECRETARIES.

BRANCHES—LONDON.

Bowes Park.—Miss TODD, 34, Highworth-road, New Southgate, N. Bromley, Kent.—Mrs. LOVEDAY, 102, London-road, Bromley, Kent. Clapham.—Mrs. EDITH SMITH, 37, Honeybrook-road, Clapham Park. Croydon.—Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue, Croydon. East London.—Miss F. E. ADAMS, 37, Wellington-buildings, Bow, E. Finchley.—Miss MOSCOTICHIAN, 40, Fallow Court-avenue, N. Finchley and Miss HEPWORTH, Eastwick, Nether-street, Finchley, N. Hackney.—Mrs. PIEROTTI, 31, Walsingham-road, Clapton, N.E. Hampstead.—Mrs. SPILLER, 63, South Hill Park, Hampstead, N.W. Harrow.—Mrs. HUNTSMAN, Rions, Northwick Park-road, Harrow. Herne Hill.—Miss W. M. SPRIGGS, 69, Danecroft-road, Herne Hill. Highbury.—Miss JOHN, 11, Canonbury-park South, Canonbury, N. Kensington.—Miss REEVES, 19, Braecwell-road, N. Kensington. Mid-London.—Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Ealing. Northern Heights.—Miss A. MITCHELL, Merok, Great North-road, Highgate. Richmond.—Mrs. D'AVYRNE SHELTON, 30, Graemesdyke-avenue, East Sheen Stamford Hill.—Mrs. THOMSON, 7, East Bank, Stamford Hill. Streatham and Thornton Heath.—Mrs. GAULD, 32, Buckleigh-road, Streatham. Tottenham.—Miss F. EGGERT, 30, Lausanne-road, Hornsey, N. West Hampstead.—Mrs. VAN RAALTE, 23, Pandora-road, W. Hampstead.

PROVINCES.

Aintree.—Mrs. SHAW, 15, Chatsworth-avenue, Aintree, Liverpool. Bournemouth.—Miss FORD, Heather Cot, Bengal-rd., Winton, Bournemouth Brighton and Hove.—Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove, Sussex. Burnside.—Mrs. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme, Manchester. Cheltenham.—Miss EDMONSON, 2, Clarence-street, Cheltenham. Chester.—Miss WOODALL, 13, Abbey-square, Chester. Eccles.—Miss J. HEYES, The Schoolhouse, Bessley Green, Worsley, Manchester. Gravesend.—Miss ROLLINSON (pro tem.), Kismet, Pier-road, Rosherville, Gravesend. Grays.—Mrs. TUNSTALL, 3, Heath-road, Chadwell St. Mary, near Grays, Essex. Hadleigh.—Miss MATTHEWS, 21, Fir Tree-terrace, Hadleigh. Hartlepool.—Mrs. ENGLISH, 23, Carlton-street, West Hartlepool. Ipswich.—Mrs. BOSACK, 49, Belmont-street, Ipswich. Letchworth.—Miss LEE, Thistle-down, 2, Norton Way North, Letchworth. Liverpool.—Mrs. EVANS, 49, Kimberley-drive, Gt. Crosby, Liverpool. Manchester.—Miss A. E. HORDERN, 478, Stockport-road, Longsight, Manchester. Middlesbrough.—Miss A. MARSHY, 35, Albert-terrace, Middlesbrough. Portsmouth.—Mrs. WHEATON, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea. Potteries.—Mrs. PEDLEY, 18, Bower-street, Hanley, Staffs. Sheffield.—Miss J. MACDONALD, 21, Harcourt-road, Sheffield. Southampton.—Mrs. PERRYMAN, Morris Hall, Commercial-road, Southampton. South Shields.—Mrs. REVELL, 13, Hepsfoot-terrace, South Shields. Sunderland.—Mrs. FALLISER, 10, Fox-street, Sunderland. Torquay and Paignton.—Mrs. GWYNNE DYER, Heathend, Garfield-road, Paignton, Devonshire. Wellingborough.—Miss V. SHARMAN, Ivy Lodge, Wellingborough, and Mrs. ENO AND SMITH, Newcastle, Hatton Park, Wellingborough. Winchester.—Mrs. E. CHILES, Estate Offices, Northwood Park, Winchester. York.—Mrs. ROBINSON, 30, Ratcliffe-street, York.

SCOTLAND.

Dundee.—Mrs. MITCHELL, 13, Clepington-road, Dundee. Dunfermline.—Miss MCCALLUM, 72, Brucefield-avenue, Dunfermline. Edinburgh.—Miss JACK, 90, Lothian-road, Edinburgh. Glasgow.—SECRETARY, Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road, Glasgow. Kilmarnock.—Miss CLAWFORD, 1, Ferryhill-road, Kilmarnock. Kirkintilloch.—Miss MCINTYRE, Woodhead-avenue, Kirkintilloch. Lochgelly.—Miss McPetric, 6, School-lane, Lochgelly. Paisley.—Miss DRACUP, 10, Townhead-terrace, Paisley. Perth.—Mrs. MACPHERSON, 3, Charlotte-street, Perth. Scottish Scattered.—Miss EUNICE MURRAY, Moore Park, Cardross, Dumbarton.

WALES.

Aberdare.—Miss B. ELLIS, 11, Gaen-street, Barry. Cardiff.—Mrs. WHEALE, 33, Stacey-road, Cardiff. Montgomery Boroughs.—Miss A. M. CLARK, 11, Severn-street, Newtown, N. Wales. Swansea.—Miss HUTTON, 9, Sketty-road, Uplands, Swansea.

GROUPS.

Newbury and Thatcham.—Miss M. ASHMAN, Broad-street, Thatcham. Peckham.—Mrs. PICKERING, 23, Albert-road, Peckham. Sale.—Miss GILBER, Thorold, Wardle-road, Sale, Cheshire. Stowmarket.—Mrs. JOSLING, 59, Lime-tree-place, Stowmarket. Walkden.—Mrs. ROGERSON, 6, Mayfield-avenue, Walkden, near Manchester. Waverton.—Miss K. TROTT, Saighton Manor, Chester. Wolverhampton.—Mrs. CRESSWELL, 25, Rugby-street, Wolverhampton. Woolpit.—Mrs. FOSTER, Lawn Farm, Woolpit, Bury St Edmunds.

BRANCH NOTES.

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

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Bowes Park.

A public meeting was held at Shaftesbury Hall, Bowes Park, on November 10. Miss Underwood and Miss Munro gave splendid and comprehensive speeches on the need for the vote and the work of the League; they awoke new enthusiasm in many of their hearers, and added to the enthusiasm of existing members. Questions and answers formed quite a pleasant feature of the meeting. As a result, new members are being enrolled, and there is a demand for another meeting of the League. We express our gratitude to Miss Underwood and Miss Munro for their excellent help. A Branch meeting will be held on Monday, November 24, at 34, Highworth-road, New Southgate.

Clapham.

A very successful and crowded meeting was held on Wednesday, November 12, at 113, West Side, Clapham-common, by kind permission of Mrs. Sutcliffe. The chair was taken by Miss Winifred St. Clair, and Miss Boyle gave a most interesting speech. Miss St. Clair said that all women should consider it a privilege to live at a time when they were able to join in the struggle of women's liberty, and contrasted the loneliness of the early women pioneers of the movement with the fellowship among women of the present day. Miss Boyle, speaking of the recent bye-elections, pointed out that for the first time the Press had acknowledged the antagonism of the women had seriously influ-

enced the result of the Reading election. She dealt with Mr. Larkin's case, and emphasized the different treatment meted out to women Suffragists. She also showed how in earlier times women had the right to vote, but had afterwards been denied their rights by the misinterpretation of the lawyers. A most enjoyable evening ended with a hearty vote of thanks to Miss Boyle for her most able speech, and to Mrs. Sutcliffe for her hospitality.

Croydon. Several new members have joined the Branch lately. The secretary thanks those who have sent articles for the stall at the coming Social, and also those who have promised similar help. Mrs. Bailie, B.Sc., gave a well-considered address at the weekly “At Home” on November 13, on the subject of “Divorce.” The speaker referred to the recommendations of the recent Royal Commission on Divorce, and pointed out some of the needless alterations in the present Divorce laws. An interesting discussion followed. More goods are wanted for the jumble sale.

East London.

It is hoped that members and sympathisers in East London will make strenuous efforts to increase our membership and fill our coffers before Christmas, as we wish to have a public meeting in Leytonstone early in January and funds are needed for this. The next Branch meeting will be on Thursday, December 4, at 37, Wellington Buildings, Bow, when there will be a discussion on “Equal Pay for Equal Work.” Please come and bring friends. Do not forget the afternoon at Loughton, December 7. Full particulars next week. We are desirous that East London shall be well represented at the Christmas Presents Sale. Please send your gifts early to the Hon. Secretary, Miss Adams, 37, Wellington Buildings, Bow, E.

Hackney.

In spite of very inclement weather, a successful drawing room meeting was held on November 13, at the residence of Mrs. Foreman, on behalf of the Hackney Branch. Mrs. Mustard, in the chair, explained the policy of the League to the non-members present, and welcomed Mrs. Nevinson, who spoke of maladministration in public affairs, and afterwards, by request, on the Mental Deficiency Bill. An interesting discussion followed. The thanks of the Branch are due to Mrs. Foreman for kind hospitality.

Harrow.

On Thursday last Miss Nina Boyle opened a discussion meeting on “That Women be Eligible for Parliament.” Miss Boyle argued that if representative government is desirable at all, it must be direct representation, and went on to show how the House of Commons and the whole nation would benefit from women representatives. Mr. Webb spoke in opposition, his contention being that since representation had become more direct in Parliament, viz. the theory of the Irish and Labour Parties—Parliament had deteriorated. A discussion followed, in which Miss Underwood, Mrs. Johnson, Mr. Slade, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Shrimpton, and others took part. The resolution in favour of the proposal was carried by a very large majority. The admission was by ticket only, and the hall was full. Our very heartfelt thanks to Miss Boyle. Will members please attend a Branch meeting to be held at the shop on Monday, November 24, at 8.15 p.m.? Agenda: To plan arrangements for the Cake and Candy Sale in December.

Mid-London.

As Tuesday is not a convenient day for some of our members, we shall in future hold our Branch meetings on the *First Friday* in the month, unless otherwise notified in *THE VOTE*. Will every member send something suitable for a Christmas gift, for the Christmas Stall on December 10, to our treasurer, Miss Hunt, at 1, Robert-street?

Streatham and Thornton Heath.

Will all members who can join Poster Parade on Friday next, November 21, to advertise Mrs. Despard's meeting on December 2, be at Thornton Heath Station at 1.30 p.m.? Mr. Todd (not Mrs. Todd) has kindly undertaken to steward this meeting.

West Hampstead.

The Merry-Making arranged by the West Hampstead Branch, on October 30, was very successful. There was much to amuse during the evening, in addition to the dancing, which continued with intervals until 11.30 p.m. Miss Gould's troupe of Morris dancers were greatly appreciated. Miss Wilkinson, Mrs. Maitland, and George van Raalte very kindly contributed to the musical programme, and Miss Inez Bensusan gave some of her inimitable recitations. Valuable assistance was given by Miss Kelly, who presided over a Wheel of Fortune, and Miss Ballam who acted as character delineator. The cordial thanks of the Branch are also due to Mrs. Walter Carey, who provided a Food Reform stall, the proceeds from which were a substantial help to the financial success of the evening.

PROVINCES.—Brighton and Hove.

Miss Hare is speaking at the Church of the Seers, 1, Eaton-road, Hove, on Monday, November 24, at 8 p.m., on “The Occult Significance of Women's Suffrage.” All are welcome on Wednesday, November 26, at 8 p.m. There will be a meeting for members and friends at Nürenberg, Palmeira-avenue, Hove, by kind invitation of Mrs. Budd, when Miss Adams will speak on “The Double Standard of Morality in Relation to Purity Work.” An enjoyable whist drive was held at the Bon-bon Teashop on Saturday evening. The room was crowded, and the result will materially help the funds.

Chester.—Suffrage Shop, 45, St. Wenburg-street.

On November 13 we had the pleasure of a visit from our esteemed President, who formally opened our Suffrage Shop. Two audiences of members and friends heard short, inspiring addresses from Mrs. Despard during the afternoon. Then followed the little play, *A Chat with Mrs. Chickey*, very kindly rendered twice by a member (Miss Alma Crosland Taylor) and a friend (Miss Watkins), and much appreciated. A good turnover was made and five new members enrolled. Members helped splendidly. Mrs. Chudleigh, with Miss Richards (Llangollen), managed catering most capably. Our thanks also are due to Mrs. Plant, who lent chairs, crockery, &c., and to Mr. Jones, who has most kindly fitted up our shop with shelves, &c.

Grays.

Victoria Café, November 25, 7.30 p.m., Branch Meeting. Paper by Mrs. France. Will all members and associates kindly note?

Ipswich.

A working party was held on November 13, and arrangements made for the Christmas Draw. Two members promised additional prizes.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.

Tues., Nov. 25.—CLAPHAM BRANCH MEETING, 1, Imperial-mansions, Bromells-road, 8 p.m. Wed., Nov. 26.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30. J. Malcolm Mitchell, Esq., "The Growth of the Suffrage among Men." Chair: Mrs. Tanner. Thurs., Nov. 27.—CROYDON W.F.L. OFFICE, 32a, The Arcade, "At Home," 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Ackroyd, 2, CURRIE-STREET, NINE ELMS, Jumble Sale, 5-10 p.m. Fri., Nov. 28.—2, CURRIE-STREET, NINE ELMS, Jumble Sale, 2-10 p.m. Tues., Dec. 2.—STREATHAM TOWN HALL, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard and others. W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C., Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. Mr. E. B. Lloyd. Subject: "The Real Meaning of the White Slave Traffic."

Tues., Dec. 2.—CROYDON BRANCH COMMITTEE MEETING, 7.30 p.m. Wed., Dec. 3.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Mrs. Ackroyd on "The Work of Women on Councils." BALHAM ASSEMBLY ROOMS, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard and Miss Murray. Chair: Miss Underwood. Tues., Dec. 9.—CROYDON W.F.L. OFFICE, The Arcade, High-street, Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Stewart Robertson, Esq., M.A. Wed., Dec. 10.—Caxton Hall, Christmas Presents Sale, 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. 3.30, H. Baillie Weaver, Esq., on "Male Cant about Female Violence." Chair: Mrs. Mustard.

PROVINCES. Mon., Nov. 24.—Gravesend, The Labour Hall, 8 p.m. Public Meeting. Miss F. A. Underwood. Hove, 1, Eaton-road. Lecture: "The Occult Significance of the Woman's Movement." Miss Hare. Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café. Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Rev. A. Scruton, "Women's Fight for Freedom." Tues., Nov. 25.—Grays. Victoria Café, Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Krance. Thurs., Nov. 27.—Chester, Brown's Sale Room, John-street, Monthly Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Shaw. Dec. 1-6.—South Shields. Miss Anna Munro. Mon., Dec. 1.—Gravesend, The Labour Hall, 8 p.m. Public Meeting. Mrs. Despard. Dec. 8-11.—West Hartlepool. Miss Anna Munro. Fri., Dec. 12.—Bolton, Lecture Hall. Public Meeting. Miss Anna Munro. Mon., Dec. 15.—Gravesend, The Labour Hall, 8 p.m. Public Meeting.

SCOTLAND S.E. Lanark By-Election Campaign. Daily Meetings in District. Fri., Nov. 21.—Lesmahagow. Open-air Meeting, 6 p.m. Speakers: Miss Ada Broughton, Miss Read. STONEHOUSE, 7.30 p.m., Miss Ada Broughton, Miss Semple. Sat., Nov. 22.—Edinburgh. Grove-street, Fountainbridge. Jumble Sale, 3 p.m. Strathaven. Open-air Meetings, 3.30 p.m. and 7 p.m. Speakers: Miss Shennan, Miss Read, and Miss Ada Broughton. Mon., Nov. 24.—Lanark. Open-air Meeting, 2 p.m. Speakers: Miss Read and Miss Ada Broughton. Carluke. Open-air meeting, 7 p.m. Wed., Nov. 26.—Edinburgh. Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road. Councillor Watson on "Recent Temperance Legislation." Mon., Dec. 1.—Strathaven. Public Hall. Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Thurs., Dec. 4.—Glasgow. 70, St. George's road, Branch Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Jacobs. Subject: "Is Woman Human?"

OTHER SOCIETIES. Fri., Nov. 21.—Welsh Chapel, Charing-cross-road. 8 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson on "Justice to Women." Sun., Nov. 30.—KINGSTON HUMANITARIAN SOCIETY, Fife Hall, Fife-road, 7 p.m. Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray (W.F.L.). Subject: "Prejudices Old and New."

BRANCH NOTES (Continued from page 57).

Next Thursday we are to have another working party, with reading by Mrs. Hossack. Will everyone make a special effort to work up a good meeting for Mrs. De Candole on November 27? Mrs. Hutley kindly sent two children's pinafores for the shop, one of which was sold at once. Middlesbrough. A large number of people assembled on November 10 in Hinton's Café, and were very interested in the account given by Mrs. Schofield Coates of the deputation to Mr. Lloyd George. Miss W. M. Jones also addressed the meeting. Seven new members joined the Branch. Will members please consult "Forthcoming Events" for times and places of various parties to be held next month? Members are asked to help to provide refreshments for whist drive on December 15. Subscriptions for the new year are now due. Portsmouth and Gosport. A well-attended members' meeting was held on November 11 at 17, Lombard-street. Mrs. White gave a very interesting and instructive address on "The Legal Disabilities of Women." A good discussion followed. Mrs. Middledigh was elected president of the Branch for the ensuing twelve months. The next meeting will be held on November 25 at "The Castle Tea Rooms," Gt. Southsea-street, when Mrs. Speck will read a paper (subject to be announced later). The business will commence punctually at 7.30. Friends are invited. Walkden. On November 12, Miss Andrews gave a very interesting lecture on the women's movement. We expect that more women will join us as a result of Miss Andrews' visit. SCOTLAND.—Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road. At a business meeting held on Wednesday evening the Branch accepted, with great regret, the resignation of the President, Miss A. C. McLaren, who finds it impossible in the meantime to fulfil the duties of the position. It was decided that until the next business

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meeting the chair should be taken in turn by members, who should be appointed in the previous week. We hope that this practice in presiding will be helpful to everyone concerned. The treasurer's report showed that over £267 had been raised during the year, of which £115 was from sales and profit on entertainments, while £43 came from the daily sale of literature, THE VOTE, &c., in the shop. We start the financial year with a satisfactory balance on hand, but members are reminded that the prompt payment of subscriptions for 1913-14 will greatly facilitate the work of the hon. treasurer. Some arrangements were made for the second half of the winter session. On Friday evening we suffered from something in the nature of an anti-climax. Returning from a most enthusiastic meeting of the Northern Men's Federation, we found our shop surrounded by a mob of "men" of another stamp, and the large plate-glass window utterly smashed—the "revenge" of students whose meeting had been interrupted by W.S.P.U. women. Everyone who knows the usual orderly character of such meetings will appreciate the resentment felt by the students when anybody else interrupts! They have expressed their intention of making good the damage since they have learned that the W.F.L. was not represented at Lord Haldane's meeting, but a little more discrimination beforehand would not be amiss! Two of the students have been arrested and charged. The jumble sale will be held in an empty shop in Grove-street, Fountainbridge, on Saturday, at 3 p.m. Many more donations of goods are wanted, and Mrs. Crabbe will also be glad of helpers for Saturday afternoon. Glasgow.—Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road. On November 15 the conveners of districts held a Cake and Candy Sale. In spite of heavy rain, our friends came out to buy, and at the end of the day we found we had realised fully £23. Our thanks are due to all who helped, but especially to Ex-Provost White for opening the sale, and to the Misses McKinnon and Yuille for music. Will all members keep Thursday, December 4, free for the Branch meeting? We hope to have Miss Jacobs from Edinburgh to address us on the subject, "Is Woman Human?" Remember to come and bring your friends to the Suffrage Centre on Friday afternoons for tea. NOTE.—For addresses of Branch Secretaries apply to Headquarters, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

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