

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

VOL. III. (New Series), No. 100.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 1910.

Price 1d. Weekly. (Post Free.)

THE RESULT OF THE GENERAL ELECTION.



A. PATRIOT.

BURGLAR ASQ—TH (to R—D—ND and K—R H—RD—): Help! Help! I say, mates, you might get me out of this,

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THE OUTLOOK.

Polling for the General Election is now over with the exception of three seats, and the result has been a return of the Liberal party with a greatly-reduced majority. At the present moment the Liberals number 274, the Conservatives 271, and for its majority the Liberal party is dependent on 40 Labour members and 81 Nationalists. The elections have thus resulted in a net gain to the Conservative side of 105 seats. This great descent from the hitherto almost impregnable position enjoyed by the Liberals completely changes the relation between the Government and the Woman Suffragists. The Government is absolutely dependent on

two other parties; the influence of the women, which is growing more marked every day, will be a source of great danger to them.

At the same time that the Government is so much weaker the W.S.P.U. is in a position of tremendously increased strength. Funds and membership are growing daily, and a force has been roused which nothing in the world can overcome. The position of the Union is indeed, as "a voice" at the Queen's Hall meeting aptly put it, "All right."

Our Policy.

Although the unsettled state of the political situation makes it difficult at this moment to formulate definite plans for the future, it has been decided that the Women's Social and Political Union shall use nothing but peaceful and constitutional methods unless the Government adopt an attitude which compels the Union to use more drastic ones. Events may prove that the need of militancy is over. The campaign of the past four years has brought the question of Votes for Women to the point of solution. The Government are not now able to make their former strong resistance to women's enfranchisement. It may even be that the wave of opinion favourable to this cause which is sweeping the country has left Cabinet Ministers

themselves not quite untouched. The Union intends to test the matter by refraining from the use of militancy until it becomes evident that the Government will respond to nothing else. Other means of carrying on the anti-Government policy, however, will be pursued from the very outset, and at every by-election which occurs the Government nominees will be opposed. Some Parliamentary vacancies may be expected very shortly, and the Women's Social and Political Union will institute an anti-Government campaign in the constituencies concerned.

Militancy in Reserve.

The announcement that there will be no militant action until it is called for by the opposition of the Government to the demand of Votes for Women has aroused comment in the Liberal Press. Hailing what it describes as the "Militants' Truce," the *Daily News* condemns militancy as futile, and suggests that the present attitude of the Union is a confession that such is the case.

The answer to this is that far from militant methods being a mistake they are the very root of the strength and power possessed by the Women's Social and Political Union at the present time. Moreover, it is the fact that the Union has in reserve the potent weapon of militancy

A SPEECH BY LADY CONSTANCE LYTTON.

Delivered at the Queen's Hall, January 31, 1910.

I am grateful for your kindness, and I appreciate it as fully and as deeply as any human being can...

Since I have been released I have had many letters not only from strangers, but from personal friends...

When I first came across those great forces I stood as an absolute outsider, an impartial critic...

volves grave hurt and tremendous sacrifice, but this is on the part of the women only, and does not physically injure their enemies.

Lies, and nothing but lies! Well, I thought, you choose your weapons, I will fight with the same weapon...

I was always on the alert for being discovered, but the first day of the hunger-strike went by, the second day went by, and the third day went by...

At last they came. It is like describing a hospital scene—and much worse. The doctor and four wardresses came into my cell.

Women's Weapons. People say, what does this hunger-strike mean? Surely it is all folly.

What was even worse to me than the thing itself was the positive terror with which I anticipated its renewal.

There was one even worse thing, and that was the moral poisoning, if one may call it that, of one's whole mind.

beings who came to do this thing. I felt it was all too hideous, and I did not wish it imprinted on my eyes.

I must go back a little, and tell you that when the chaplain visited me he seemed to have said to himself, "This is a Suffragette; one must mend her ideas of women."

Two Pictures.

Then one evening, as I lay on the bed on the floor of my cell, I looked up. There were three panes of clear glass, and on them as the light fell there came shadows of the moulding that looked like three crosses.

I am a Liberal, but am voting against the Government this time as a protest against their treatment of women.

As a member of the W.S.P.U. I have great pleasure in telling you that my brother has for a birthday present placed his vote at my disposal.

In reply to repeated calls from the agent of E. J. Horniman, M.P. for Chelsea, I have written to say I decline to give my vote to a Government whose treatment of our women is a disgrace to the country.

On Wednesday next I intend to vote against the Liberal for the first time.

I do this as a protest against the tyranny and injustice of the late Liberal Government towards their women political opponents.

Even now there are many people to-day who kindly extend their personal sympathy to me.

W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

My grandfather, who is eighty-four, and has taken a keen interest in politics all his life, consistently voting Liberal, has determined to withhold his vote at the coming election.

I send you herewith postal order value 20s. as a contribution to your election fund.

I have two votes—one in Holborn, the other in South Kensington—and both will be given against the Government.

I have written to Mr. Asquith informing him that though I am a strong Liberal and my family have been Liberals for many generations, I am in this election voting for the Conservative candidate here.

Because I think the enfranchisement of women by far the most important political question of the moment, I shall be glad to place my vote at your service at the coming election.

I think to get electors to put their votes absolutely at your direction until the Suffrage is won for women would be a dramatic and effective way of helping the movement.

I, W. Richardson, place my vote at the disposal of my wife for this election as a protest against the Liberals' brutal treatment of British women during their term of office.

Two Fulham electors, Nos. 13,634 and 14,144, handed in their polling card slips at the Queen's Hall at Home, with the news that they had this time voted against the Government.

A QUESTION FROM AN ELECTOR. We have recently seen it stated in the papers that men-of-war have been brought home expressly in order for the men on them to record their votes.

The great majority of soldiers and sailors cannot vote because they cannot fulfil the condition of one year's residence. Even those who have a fixed abode are constantly away on duty and, therefore, unable to register their vote.

FROM PRISON.* Put out my eyes; but when you've done See if you can put out the sun; Thrust me in gaol and turn the key— Freedom shall win, nor fails with me.

Fetter these hands that wield the pen— The sword most feared by knavish men; Some hand, some pen renews the strife, While throbs one heart for God and life.

What tho' my fire-touched lips were dumb, Sealed in the darkness of the tomb? Ten thousand voices thunder loud— Shall mine be missed in such a crowd?

You think the Spring is dead of course, Its light, its song, its sap, its force, Because your stupid hands prevail To strangle one poor nightingale.

* From Sallet's "Ergebnis," by Father G. Tyrrell. ("Versions and Parodies," Translations from Heine and others, E. J. Mathews, 2s. 6d.)

Missions to Women.

The intense interest of women in the crusade that is being waged on their behalf was so striking a feature of the recent Election campaign that it has been decided to hold special women's missions.

At the Fighting Line.

The monstrous sentences on two women now in Walton Gaol, Liverpool, are due to expire on February 17 and 18 respectively.

Great Albert Hall Meeting.

Members and friends are reminded that if they wish for the opportunity of being present at the next great ticket meeting in London they must not delay, as the tickets are selling rapidly.

A Forcible Feeding Poster.

The telling cartoon published on the front of last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN illustrating forcible feeding is being reproduced as a poster.

To all whom it may concern.

During the General Election campaign large numbers of people for the first time came into touch with the militant movement.

Poster Parades in London.

The poster parades recently held in London have proved so successful in drawing attention to the VOTES FOR WOMEN newspaper that it has been decided to make them a weekly fixture.

The Scottish Exhibition.

Further details of the Suffrage Exhibition and Sale of Work, to be held in Glasgow on the closing days of April, will be found on page 300.

Prison Protest at Liverpool.

A great protest meeting is being held to-day in the Sun Hall at 8 p.m. to express the indignation felt with regard to the treatment of Suffragist prisoners in Walton Gaol recently.

Meeting at the Court Theatre.

An important meeting will take place in the Court Theatre, Sloane Square, at 3 p.m., on February 22.

The Woman's Press.

A dainty little rosette in the colours has been produced by the Woman's Press. The rosette is formed of ribbon woven in the colours, the green in the centre, and is attached by a small safety pin.

ELECTION ITEMS.

Mr. P. W. Pascock sent Leaflet No. 64—"Atrocities in an English Prison"—to the Liberal candidate for Streatham and to the local Press.

At Redhill a member of the Liberal Association recently resigned his position on account of the Liberal attitude towards women.

THE WOMEN'S ELECTION SONG.

Should our brave women be forgot And never brought to min'?

No, we'll avenge our sisters' wrongs, And tyrants put to rout;

Remember Woman's Cause betrayed, And keep the Liberals out!

A correspondent in Cleveland, Yorkshire, sends us a Liberal leaflet which was widely circulated there, and which shows a sad lack of humour.

Several women have registered their votes during the General Election apparently without challenge.

SOME PRESS COMMENTS.

It was hardly to be expected that the election would be allowed to pass over without a visit from that happy band of pilgrims—for they are happy, even under apparently distressing circumstances—the Suffragettes.

Committee rooms have been taken by the Women's Social and Political Union within a stone's throw of both candidates' central committee rooms.

Indirectly the Suffragettes may have assisted the Unionist.

ALFRED DAY, LADIES' TAILOR.



Coat & Skirt, in Serge, Tweed, or Cloth, from £2 2s., made to order.

Black, Navy, and Cream Serge, from 2 Gns. Tweed, Cloth, and Linen.

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How to subdue it in 24 hours. A NATIONAL REMEDY.

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Veno's Lightning Cough Cure is the standard remedy for coughs, colds, bronchitis, influenza, asthma, whooping cough, and all chest and lung troubles.

THE PINE FOREST AT HOME. "Sanitas"

Advertisement for Sanitas cough medicine, featuring an illustration of a bottle and descriptive text about its benefits for various ailments like asthma and influenza.

A PERVERSION.

The death was recently reported of Police Constable Hudson at Leeds, said to have been caused by a kick from a man in the crowd during a Suffragette disturbance.

A PUBLIC-SPRITED WOMAN.

There has just died at Cheltenham a lady who held a noteworthy place in the public life of Gloucestershire for many years.

THE DRUMMERS' UNION.

The first meeting (for boys and girls only) will be held to-morrow (Saturday) from 2.30 to 4.30 at the Rehearsal Theatre, 21, Maiden Lane, Strand, W.C.

WOMEN WRITERS' SUFFRAGE LEAGUE.

The reception to be held at the Waldorf Hotel on the afternoon of February 9, for which the Women Writers' Suffrage League are sending out invitations, promises to be unusually attractive to members and their friends.

ACRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE.

The Actresses' Franchise League are at Home to members and their friends in the Victoria Hall of the Criterion Restaurant, to-day, at three o'clock.

CONSERVATIVE AND UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION.

Lady Carlisle and Lady Wilson have recently joined the list of vice-presidents, and Lady Katherine Morgan, Lady Hindlip, Lady Scott Moncrieff, and Lady Stormont Darling have consented to belong to the Women's Council.

A SCHOOLBOY'S ANSWER.

One of the questions set in a school examination at Eastbourne College recently was: "What do you connect with the names: Wilbur Wright, Marconi, Shackleton, M. S. Curie, Miss Parkhurst, Ysaya Paderewski, Sarah Bernhardt?"

INTERESTING ITEMS.

An unique work for educated women has just been started at 4, Chichester Street, Westminster, Miss Marguerite Fedden, who holds first-class diplomas in the Domestic Arts, obtained at the National Training School of Cookery, has opened a residential College of Housework, where all the arts of the household are scientifically taught by diploma holders.

A correspondent writes from Galicia, regretting that, "being so far from home it is impossible to do much for the great movement except to read Votes for Women from cover to cover. Even in this out-of-the-way spot," she says, "you have many supporters. My chief, a very clever and learned Polish lady, reads Votes for Women with great interest, and wishes the brave Suffragettes every success."

"Allinson" Bread

Advertisement for Allinson's Wholemeal Bread, featuring an illustration of a woman holding a loaf of bread and a coupon for a 3d. loaf.

ADVERTISEMENT RATES.

Single Insertion, 1d. a word; minimum 2s. (four insertions for the price of three).

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A GOOD APPOINTMENT OFFERING EXCEPTIONAL PROSPECTS FOR SEEDY PROMOTION.—The City Life Assurance Company, Ltd., possessing funds exceeding £450,000, is about to extend and strengthen its representation in various parts of the country.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

DOMESTICATED, bright, capable Mother's Help, excellent needlewoman, fond of children, seeks post.—(Stamp) Apply, Anglo-Scandinavian Bureau, 47, Great Portland Street, London, W.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A JAPANESE Magic Finger-nail Cult, Culto. No pads, powder, liquid, or paste. Join Strange Winter, the Authoress, writes: "We are all enchanted with Culto." Post free, 1s. 6d.—Belvoir and Co., New Southgate, N.

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

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to take long rests, wishes to immediately dispose of good Dressmaking and Millinery Business; excellent lease and connection, stock and furniture.—Box 642, Votes for Women Offices, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

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WANTED.—The Publisher of this paper

would be glad to buy back from readers copies of Votes for Women for October and November, 1907. Also April 30, May 28, June 4, and June 25, 1908. Postage and original cost refunded.—Publisher, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

WATERCOLOUR by W. H. Walker.

Price 10 guineas. This is one of the series of "Fancies" lately exhibited in Bond St.—Mrs. Sanders, The Treasury Votes for Women Offices, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

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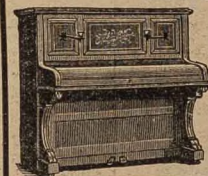
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