

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

GUARANTEED WEEKLY CIRCULATION—20,000 COPIES.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

No. 16.

SATURDAY, JULY 4TH, 1914.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS.

Sunday, July 5th, 3 p.m.—Victoria Park, Miss Hicks.
 8 p.m.—The Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Rd., Bow—Dr. Flora Murray, Mr. Joseph Clayton.
 Monday, July 6th, 3 p.m.—Women's Hall, Bow—Members' meeting.
 8 p.m.—Women's Hall, Bow—Speakers' Class.
 8 p.m.—"Peacock," Freemason's Rd., Canning Town—Mrs. Laski.
 8.30 p.m.—Swiss Cottage, South Hackney
 Tuesday, July 7th, 8 p.m.—East India Dock Gates, Poplar
 8 p.m.—Limehouse, Burdett Rd., and Courts Rd.
 Wednesday, July 8th, 3 p.m.—"At Home" to members and friends of the E.L.F.S.—The Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Rd., E.
 8 p.m.—319 East India Dock Rd., Poplar—Mrs. Haverfield.
 8 p.m.—Crowder's Hall, 173 Bow Rd.
 Thursday, July 9th, 3 p.m.—319 East India Dock Rd., Poplar—Women's Meeting.
 2.30 p.m.—Deacon's Vestry, Burdett Rd., Limehouse—Women's Meeting.
 8 p.m.—124 Barking Rd., Canning Town
 8 p.m.—Knapp Rd., Bromley.
 Friday, July 10th, 8 p.m.—Beckton Rd., Canning Town—Mr. E. Duval.
 8 p.m.—Piggott St., Poplar—Mrs. Laski.
 8 p.m.—The Women's Hall, Bow—Members' meeting.
 Saturday, July 11th, 7.30 p.m.—"At Home" to the Overseas Suffrage visitors—400 Old Ford Rd., Bow.
 Sunday, July 12th—Procession from Women's Hall, Bow, to Canning Town Public Hall. Start 6 p.m.

Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement.

13 BUCKINGHAM STREET, STRAND, W.C.

A PUBLIC MEETING

will be held at
KENSINGTON TOWN HALL
 KENSINGTON HIGH STREET,
 On Friday, July 10th, at 8 p.m.
 DOORS OPEN AT 7.30.

Speakers: Dr. F. MOXON, M.B., B.S.; Mr. ERNEST DUVAL; Rev. C. A. WILLS, who was thrown into the lake by Liberals for protecting a woman; Mrs. J. A. BOUVIER
 Chairman: VICTOR D. DUVAL.

Tickets: Reserved 1s. and 6d. Unreserved 3d. at the Men's Political Union Office, 13 Buckingham St., Strand; W.S.P.U. Shop, 104 Church St., Kensington; W.S.P.U. Shop, 315 High Rd., Kilburn; W.S.P.U. Shop, 95 Fulham Rd., S.W.; W.S.P.U. Shop, 128 Finchley Rd., Hampstead; W.S.P.U. Shop, 308 King's Rd., Chelsea, and at the door.

A LETTER FROM MRS. WALKER IN PRISON.

Dear Comrades in Limehouse,

I wonder often while I am here how things are going on in Limehouse. I am with you in spirit every Thursday afternoon and can picture your dear faces, and am wondering whether you are all well and whether the dear babies can manage to keep quiet during this hot weather. I feel the heat very much in my little cell; the door is closed all day long. True there is ventilation, but only two little tiny panes will open to let the air in, and that, we have to thank the Suffragettes for, because, if you remember, they broke the panes of glass to get air when they first came to Holloway. That is the first reform they won without the vote. What shall we not do when we get the vote!

I try to picture the meeting and wonder who is presiding; what speaker you have and whether the hall is packed. Of course I know Miss Lloyd is always busy, but of all things I do hope each one of you is doing her best to keep the Flag flying in Limehouse while I am away, for that is the only way you can score off the Government by advancing the Movement, and victory is bound to be ours. They have sent me here thinking they will break my spirit and that the punishment which they have inflicted on me will make me give up asking for the vote. No, friends, they have given me an experience which I would not give up for twenty pounds! I shall come out of this place with a greater desire to fight for the Cause to the bitter end. This month in prison is a rest for me. I shall come out feeling stronger and quite ready for work. God bless you my friends, and may this fight soon end; then we

shall have the power to be able to shape and mould our own lives. But until then our cry is: "No surrender, give me liberty or give me death." I hope to be with you all next Thursday fortnight.

Yours for Freedom,
 MELVINA WALKER.

A procession to Holloway to cheer Mrs. Walker, will start from The Women's Hall, Old Ford Road, Bow, at 8 p.m., on Monday July 6th.

TO WELCOME THE SUFFRAGIST VISITORS FROM OVERSEAS.

The New Woman Suffrage Union, British Dominions Overseas, are holding their first Conference on Thursday, July 9th, in Westminster. The Union was founded with the object of linking up, all over the empire, the women who have already won the vote and those who are still struggling for the recognition of their citizenship—in Great Britain, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Canada.

On Friday, July 10th, the East London Federation of the Suffragettes will welcome the delegates of the Overseas Union to East London, when visits will be arranged to factories and Workhouses of the district, and the visitors will also see something of the home-workers, under the guidance of Mrs. Scurr and others, they will also make a tour of the E.L.F.S. offices—and learn about our work.

On Saturday, July 11th, an evening At-home is being given in honour of the Overseas visitors, at 400 Old Ford Road, when Miss Sylvia Pankhurst and members of the deputation to Mr. Asquith will speak. (Those who wish to meet the visitors can obtain tickets for the At-home at 3d. each.)

On Sunday, July 12th, a great public meeting is being held at Canning Town Public Hall at which two of their number have kindly consented to speak.

CANNING TOWN MEETING.

A procession will form up at 6 p.m. outside 400 Old Ford Road and will march with Miss Pankhurst to Canning Town. It is for the people of East London to see that the Overseas visitors are not shown the ugly side of the East End campaign—the brutality of the police, the persecution of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst. If the procession is large enough the forces of law and order will decide that discretion is the better part of valour.

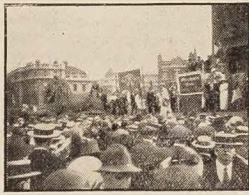
The speakers at the Canning Town Public Hall will be Miss Pankhurst, Mr. Lansbury, Mrs. Drake, two of the Overseas visitors, Miss Paterson, and others. A resolution will be moved at the meeting calling on the Prime Minister to follow up the expressions of sympathy which he made to the East London working women who waited on him at Downing Street, by a definite and favourable reply to the women in the form of a promise to introduce an immediate Government measure for a vote for every woman over 21.

It will be an opportunity to show the Prime Minister and our visitors alike that the East London Federation of the Suffragettes believes in deeds rather than words.

A Contrast.

On July 9th, an At Home for the Overseas delegates is being given by Lady Betty Balfour and the Countess of Selborne. On July 9th, Miss Balfour is entertaining them and it is thought that Mr. Balfour will be present. The Visitors will thus be brought face to face with the glaring contrasts of our East and West.

Mr. S. Kirkwood, of Dumbarton, writes that at Springburn, Glasgow, the constituency of the Secretary for Scotland, the following resolution was carried unanimously at a meeting of 2,000 people:—"That this meeting calls upon the Government for the immediate and unconditional release of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, who has committed no crime, but has upheld the rights of free speech, and condemns the Government for discriminating between men and women who advocate militancy."



EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES.

GREAT PROCESSION

AND
 MEETING IN CANNING TOWN PUBLIC HALL,
 Sunday, July 12th,

To call upon the Prime Minister to follow up his expressions of sympathy to the East London Deputation by introducing an immediate Government measure to give a vote to every woman over 21

Speakers:
 Miss SYLVIA PANKHURST,
 Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY,
 Mrs. DRAKE, and Suffragist Visitors from the British Dominions Overseas.
 Chair: Miss Paterson.

Procession starts from 400 Old Ford Road 6 o'clock, and marches to Canning Town Public Hall (8 p.m.)



THE TRAFALGAR SQUARE MEETING.

On Sunday, June 28th, the East London Federation of the Suffragettes held a joint meeting with the Forward Cymric Suffrage Union in Trafalgar Square.

We reprint the following account from the *Manchester Guardian*.

The Suffrage in Trafalgar Square.

"The demand of the suffragists that the Government should introduce a Women's Suffrage Bill and hold an autumn session to pass it into law, was urged by a large and entirely peaceable crowd at a demonstration in Trafalgar Square this afternoon, when speeches were delivered simultaneously from three sides of the plinth by members of the co-operating societies, by the Forward Cymric Suffrage Society and the East London Federation for Women's Suffrage, both of whom had marched in procession from the East End, and by the United Suffragists. The Welshwomen, in national costume, carried red dragon banners, and the United Suffragists, with the simple dignity of their badge, inscribed briefly "U.S.," took a second place. Through all the speeches ran the thought of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, who was, of course, unable to be present, and all the speakers emphasised the importance of the concession she had won from Mr. Asquith—it was one of the greatest forward steps the movement had made, said

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VOTES FOR WOMEN IS COMING!

Most of the newspapers, and especially the newspapers which support the Government, declare that Mr. Asquith's reply to the East London deputation on Saturday, June 20th, means that he is preparing to withdraw his hostility to Votes for Women.

Manchester Guardian, June 22nd.—Romantic sentiment as a political investment, "chivalrous deference" to women as an excuse for exposing them to misery and ruin, is quite revolting. It is this contrast that is brought before the mind with extraordinary clearness by the moving speeches of the deputation to Mr. Asquith—the contrast between the average poor woman's argument for enfranchisement and the average rich man's argument against it—the clear and compelling appeal on the one side for an obvious aid to rescue from distress and deadly danger, and on the other side the nebulous, emotional reasons for not doing the one bold and generous thing that is needed. Happily there is no trace of this in Mr. Asquith's reply, which, coming from one who has always hitherto opposed Women's Suffrage, was most happy augury.

The New Statesman.—His reception of the deputation marks a distinct step forward in the Suffrage agitation.

The Nation.—The reception of the East End women by the Prime Minister may mean, if the friends of the Suffrage are resolute and wise, a new departure and a new chapter of hope in the history of this question. . . . If the movement has lately met with some passing disfavour among those who, at the best, take no movement seriously, it is steadily making its way in grades and classes of working women whom it used to find indifferent. . . . It is, on our reading of the future, morally certain that if Liberalism fails to grant it on a democratic basis, Conservatism will concede it on a narrow basis. Nothing less than the powerful opposition of the Prime Minister could have delayed it during the last three years. . . . The tone of Mr. Asquith's answer to the East End deputation makes for the hope that his attitude will in future be less unqualified. . . . After the instructive history of this Parliament, no man who cares for his own reputation as a sincere and clear-thinking politician will play with proposals for a Private Member's Bill, or waste his energy on face-saving efforts by unofficial groups of Members. The thing can be done only by a Government which knows its own mind from the first. Those Ministers who believe in Woman Suffrage are clearly bound to put it in their electoral programme and to declare for a Government measure. The obstacles to this course are obvious.

The obstacles to shelving the question are, to our thinking, much the more formidable. . . . The way out of this tangle is clear. The next Liberal Cabinet is bound to be a Suffragist Cabinet. There may, of course, be a Tory Cabinet, which will aim at a narrow Bill. But Mr. Asquith's instinct is sound. Liberalism can adopt this reform with full conviction and enthusiasm only in a democratic shape. But the Party which moulds a great human claim to its own principles and its own reckoning of expediency must pay the price and shoulder the responsibility.

The Labour Leader.—If Mr. Asquith was not converted by the speeches delivered by the working women of East London, who went on a deputation to him, his soul in this respect must be past praying for. . . . No expression was given to the determined opposition with which he once met Women's Suffrage arguments, and beneath his words there seemed to be a recognition that the enfranchisement of women cannot long be delayed.

Christian Commonwealth.—We heartily welcome the unmistakable softening of Mr. Asquith's attitude. . . . Justice cannot be done and there can be no peace in the community until this Government, or some other Government, brings in a measure for the political enfranchisement of women.

The Aberdeen Free Press.—Among intelligent and thoughtful women, as among intelligent and thoughtful men, humanitarian zeal becomes more and more aglow, and in the course of progress and betterment we need the active co-operation of our best men and women. We cannot spare it without loss. On the grounds both of right and expediency Woman Suffrage should be conceded. . . . In view of all this it is very gratifying to note a decided softening of the Premier's general tone towards Woman Suffrage.

A Referendum.

The Aberdeen Free Press goes on to point out that Lord Murray has suggested that "before the expiry of the present Parliament a Referendum be taken on Woman Suffrage," and that "all persons qualified to vote in Parliamentary, Municipal, County and Parish Council elections should

