

Mrs. Constance Mark
Avenue Brugmann
148
Brussels



THE

WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes.

Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

No. 17.

SATURDAY, JULY 11TH, 1914.

PRICE ONE HALFPENNY.

Great Demonstration SUNDAY NEXT,

TO CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER

To follow up the expressions of sympathy and promises to consider their demand which he made to the East London Deputation, by the introduction of an immediate Government measure to give a vote to every woman over 21.

PROCESSION from OLD FORD ROAD, C.
p.m., via East India Dock Gates, Poplar, to
CANNING TOWN PUBLIC HALL, Barking
Road, 8 p.m.

Speakers—SYLVIA PANKHURST, GEORGE
LANSBURY, Mrs. DRAKE, Miss PATERSON,
and Women Voters from Overseas Dominions

Passport to the meeting, a copy of the "Woman's Dread-
nought," which may be bought for 1d. at the doors.

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS.

Saturday, July 11th—400 Old Ford Rd., Bow—Reception to Delegates from British Dominions Overseas. 7.30 to 10.30.

Sunday, July 12th, 8 p.m.—Canning Town Public Hall. Speakers—Sylvia Pankhurst, George Lansbury, Mrs. Julia Scurr, Mrs. Drake, and some of the Delegates from British Dominions Overseas.

Monday, July 13th, 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.

8.30 p.m.—Swiss Cottage, South Hackney—Miss Rushbrooke.

Tuesday, July 14th, 8 p.m.—East India Dock Gates, Poplar—Miss Rickards.

8 p.m.—Limhouse, Burdett Rd., and Coutts Rd.—Miss Hicks.

Wednesday, July 15th, 8 p.m.—319 East India Dock Rd., Poplar—Women's Meeting.

Mrs. A. J. Webb.

2.30 p.m.—Deacon's Vestry, Burdett Rd., Limehouse—Women's Meeting.

8 p.m.—Choir—400 Old Ford Rd.

8 p.m.—124 Barking Rd., Canning Town—Miss Prankard.

8 p.m.—Woodstock Rd., Poplar.

Friday, July 17th, 8.30 p.m.—Beckton Rd., Canning Town—Miss Rushbrooke.

8 p.m.—Cottage St., Poplar—Mr. Johnson.

8 p.m.—The Women's Hall, Bow—Members' meeting.

Sunday, July 19th, 8 p.m.—The Women's Hall, 400 Old Ford Rd., Bow—Sylvia Pankhurst and others. Music: Miss McDonald and friends.

FREE CHURCHMEN PROTEST.

Several leading Non-Conformist Ministers including the Rev. R. J. Campbell, the Rev. R. F. Horton, the Rev. W. E. Orchard, the Rev. J. H. Shakespeare and the Rev. J. M. Lloyd Thomas, have addressed a protest against forcible feeding to the Prime Minister. They say: "We do not believe that if public opinion had realised what forcible feeding has involved it would have tolerated it at all. At any rate, we cannot tolerate it. We regard it as a dangerous and exasperating element in the present deplorable state of affairs, and we cannot stand silently by and see Parliament adjourned, possibly over a period of many months, while forcible feeding is going on in English prisons."

"It is a cardinal principle of statesmanship that punishment of political offence should go hand in hand with redress of grievance. At all times and in all places in the history of the world where the grievance of exclusion from citizenship and equality has been so keenly felt in the excluded class as to lead to violence, coercion has failed to do anything but inflame, embitter and prolong that violence. We believe it is scarcely supposed by anyone that women can be permanently excluded from citizenship. The question at issue is rather how far public feeling is to be embittered and outraged before the question is settled. Sympathisers who would like to add their signatures to the protest should send them to the Hon. Secretary, 133 Salisbury Square, E.C."

THE BISHOP, MILITANCY AND THE VOTE!

A SIDE ISSUE.

In sending the following letter to the *Times*, the Bishop of London says that the idea has got abroad that he condones militancy. He is nervously anxious to free himself from this imputation, and recalls the fact that he has said from time to time that militancy is "the devil's work;" that Suffragettes are "doing evil that good may come;" that "God's will can only be done in God's way," that "there can be no blessing on the vote obtained in this manner for women." He also speaks of himself as "a late convert to the limited franchise;" but he protests against the forcible feeding of Suffragettes because, he says "It seems to leave them physical and mental wrecks." He says: "I make no complaint about drugging, as I have it on the authority of a physician whose word I accept, that nothing is given except medicine essential to their health." In reply to this particular statement, we would ask the Bishop whether he disbelieves the evidence of the doctors who have found proof that bromide has been administered, in the women who have been released from Holloway. If the Bishop does not disbelieve these statements, we would ask him whether he realises that doctors and all who have knowledge of the effect of this drug, administer it to their patients with the very greatest reluctance, even in cases of most acute pain, because of its dangerous physical, mental and moral effects, especially when given with one another.



A BISHOP'S LETTER.

London House, Feb. 16th, 1914.

Dear Home Secretary.—I have been very anxious to respect the confidence you placed in me in allowing me to enter Holloway Prison twice and interview three of the prisoners, and I purposely refrained from doing anything or saying anything at the time which might seem like "breaking my parole," but the statements made by all three prisoners, in two cases of constant vomiting caused by forcible feeding, led me to make some careful inquiries as to its effect from those outside who had undergone it, and from those who had treated the patients suffering from its effects if it.

I send you now a few enclosed.

1. A statement by Dr. Flora Murray, who

has attended many of the patients. She is

not herself a militant Suffragette.

2. A description by Dr. Frances Ede of

the effect of forcible feeding upon herself.

3. An account of treatment given to

Mary Richardson.

I interviewed Mary Richardson for nearly

an hour. She was very quiet, sensible-

looking girl, a lady, and a religious girl who had persuaded herself that she was in this

way fighting for the welfare of oppressed

women and children. The account she gave me tallies with the account enclosed which she gave to Dr. Flora Murray in all main essentials, but was not expressed with the same "animus" which seems to characterise the enclosure.

Miss Pankhurst, who was a very calm, collected, and evidently able woman, said that after being forcibly fed she found herself trembling and sobbing, and that the effect of it upon the nervous system was indescribable.

She complained, like the others, of

sickness and exhaustion after it.

I will not weary you with the accounts of any more, but I must tell you that, so far as my opinion is worth anything, I have been convinced that we are not justified in treating delicate women in this way.

All analogies from the artificial feeding of invalids or even the forcible feeding of lunatics are, I think, false. It is part of the creed (utterly mistaken as I have told them individually and collectively) professed by these women to struggle against the feeding, and it is just the feeding in spite of the struggle which produces these disastrous results.

I have no right whatever to advise you what to do, except the right of a friend and an ally who honestly tries to see the question in all its bearings.

I quite see that you cannot set free unconditionally those who may burn the houses of peaceful citizens, but I believe that it would be more humane to allow the prisoners to refuse food and then, if they reduce themselves to a state of weakness by this course of action, to release them for a time under the Act which I had imagined, was passed for the express purpose of making forcible feeding unnecessary.

Be that as it may, I have liberated my soul on the subject. I am keeping this letter private as I do not wish to embarrass you in your difficult task of combining mercy with

(continued on page 67)

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND MILITANCY.

MRS. PANKHURST'S PLANS.

To the Editor of the "Times."

Sir,—I have read the Bishop of London's letter in yesterday's issue of the *Times* with great interest. The Bishop's condemnation of militancy involving injury to property, when practised by women, leads me to ask him two questions:

(1) Why does he condemn militancy on the part of women while, presumably, he approves (since he remains silent) the preparations made by men in Ireland to destroy, not only property, but human life?

(2) Since he no doubt agrees with the Unionist Party (and, indeed with most people) that there are circumstances which justify violence, even of the most extreme kind, does he not think (I quote from his letter to the Home Secretary) that "foolish deeds done by women to save their children and to women who have been driven by poverty and misfortune to become the victims of man's lust," and to these, I would add the fact, as proved by medical evidence, of the infection in marriage of mothers with a foul disease fatal to the race, are not infinitely greater justification for revolt than what, after all, is a question not so much of human need as of the machinery of government?

The main object of the Bishop's letter is, I take it, to protest against the torture of forcible feeding, and he now makes public his correspondence with the Home Secretary in February last.

Since that time Mr. McKenna has used his power under the "Cat and Mouse" Act with the utmost rigour, and having realised its ineffectiveness as a weapon of coercion he has now decided to forcibly feed, not only women "who have been guilty of arson," but also those who have been convicted of "minor offences," and even those who are as yet untried and, therefore, presumably innocent of all offence except that of wishing for a vote.

Among these untried prisoners are women charged with the crimes of "incitement" and "conspiracy," which Sir Edward Carson and his associates openly and avowedly committed, and for which I was sentenced little more than a year ago to three years' penal servitude.

Since my sentence I have been eight times released, after hunger and thirst strikes, because I was in danger of death. I am now at liberty and could, if I so desired, altogether escape further imprisonment.

I ask you to publish this letter because I desire to inform the Home Secretary and his colleagues that to-morrow I shall openly resume my work for the enfranchisement of women, and that when they have effected my re-arrest with its usual accompaniment of brutality and insult I shall resume the strike. I challenge them to apply to me the same treatment of forcible feeding that is used in the case of my friends.

In his letter to the Bishop of London, Mr. McKenna states that our object in refusing food is to make difficult the enforcement of the law. He is right. We militant Suffragettes believe in the principle that "just government rests upon the consent of the governed obtained by constitutional means," and we are determined to make it impossible for the present so-called Liberal Government to continue any longer their denial of representation to our sex. They must either obtain the consent of women to legislation and to the administration of the laws by giving them the Parliamentary vote, or they must give us death.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
E. PANKHURST.
Lincoln's Inn House, W.C.
July 7th.

Mrs. Pankhurst was re-arrested outside Lincoln's Inn House on Wednesday, July 8th, and is now serving her ninth term of imprisonment.

DOCTORS' PROTEST.

Seventy-one doctors in different parts of the country, who are members of the Medical Men's Force Feeding Protest Committee, have written to Mr. McKenna to beg him to receive a deputation on the subject of "Force Feeding." They say: "Force Feeding as being carried out in His Majesty's prisons is a system of torture based upon violence and depending for its success upon the infliction of pain. It has caused grave bodily injury in many instances and it always leads to serious impairment of health."

The Boston *Globe* asks: "Is the English Suffragette the mouse or the cat?"

A St. Louis paper has recently published a cartoon showing the British lion fleeing for his life from a small mouse.

THE WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT.

ADVERTISE IN OUR PAPER.

Deal with our Advertisers.

HERE IS OUR ADVERTISEMENT PRICE LIST.

SCALE OF CHARGES.

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Other pages... 0 2 6

Charges per column: £ s. d.

Front Page ... 2 2 0
Back Page ... 2 0 0
Other Pages... 1 15 0

Charges per page and half-Page: £ s. d.

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Other Pages... 6 10 0
" Half Page ... 3 10 0Classified advertisements (small type) £s. for 12 words, id. a word after. Four insertions for price of three.
The above prices are less 5 per cent. for 13 or more insertions.

A. GLIKSTEN, Advertisement Manager.

The Woman's Dreadnought.

Published by the East London Federation of the Suffragettes,

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Annual Subscription: Post free, £s. 3d.

No. 17.—Saturday, July 11th, 1914.

Bravely and willingly we bear our share of the World's burdens. Why, then, deny us the right to Vote, which would dignify our labour and increase our Power of Service.

THE VALUE OF THE VOTE

It has become almost fashionable nowadays to deprecate the usefulness of the vote. Many people seek to prove that the vote is powerless, by pointing to the poverty and destitution existing amongst working people and to the miserable housing and other conditions under which vast numbers of them live, although working men hold seven-tenths of the electoral power.

But what should we blame for the poverty and misery of the workmen but the ignorance and carelessness of these very workmen, who have not insisted on securing better conditions. Some men who profess to be politically advanced, say that they fear the advent of votes for women, because they imagine that women are reactionary. But when women consider the world around them, they have cause indeed to wonder that any man should fear that women could possibly make the muddle any worse than it is! Even the children in the American George Junior Republics, and other juvenile self-governing communities, have made infinitely wiser laws and conditions for themselves than those under which we are living in the England of to-day. The Bible tells us that certain ancient lands and cities were destroyed because the princes were rebellious, the shepherds slumbered and the merchants multiplied beyond the stars of heaven, everyone loving gifts and following after rewards, judging not the cause of the widow and the fatherless. God was wrathful, because though the land was filled with silver and gold, neither was there any end to their treasures, powerful men ate up the vineyards and the spoil of the poor was in their houses. They said:—

"When will the new moon be gone, that we may sell corn, and the Sabbath that we may set foot upon? and the annual harvest, the week given for the balance by decree, that we may buy the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of shoes; yea, and sell them the refuse of the wheat?"

The Lord cried through the mouth of His prophets:—

"They have healed also the hurt of the daughter of my people slightly, saying 'peace, peace,' when there is no peace. Were they ashamed when they had committed abomination? No, they were not ashamed, neither could they blush, for the hurt of the daughter of my people I am hurt. Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is not the health of the daughter of my people recovered? Oh, my head were watered, and every a mountain of tears, that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people."

"What mean ye that beat my people to pieces and grind the faces of my poor?"

Do not these words describe for us our own unfortunate country? Are

not our rich men wealthier than those for energy for thought, have acquiesced in the ancient cities? Are not ourthis man's doctrine for ages past, and courts of justice places where theses women even agree to it still?

poor enter with trembling, and where Men who are impatient for reform cruel and clumsy laws, laws that cannot win it, because they cannot

be always most cruel and clumsy in concert enough other men to their way

their application to women are ad-of thought, blame the voting system ministered? In our courts the police for their own inability and the foolishness, carefully rehearsed andness of other men!

manipulated beforehand, is almost. It is quite true that our Cabinet is always preferred to that of any autocratic body and that the mem-

ber of private citizens, members of Parliament follow their Party

How little our country does for the leaders like sheep. But why then do widow and the fatherless? Are not the voters consent to re-elect them the majority of the widows plunged They can choose other candidates as inevitably into the depths of poverty? substitutes when the General Election

In many cases the nation offers no next comes round. (The men who help but the Workhouse, which is want women to vote should remember little better than a prison, and entails this at the next election.)

the separation of the mother from her. If the voters find that the present children. If relief is given, it is given methods of Government are clumsy, they can remould them by combining nominate and elect candidates to do so, as the people of certain American States have done.

I. They can insist that the Cabinet Minister Judges, Magistrates and others be directly elected by the people.

2. That all Acts, or certain Acts of Parliament shall not become law until they have been adopted by a referendum vote of the people.

3. That bills may be introduced to Parliament, or submitted to the people without being first discussed in Parliament, on the initiative of a certain number or percentage of voters. (In the State of Missouri the requisite 23,000 signatures to procure the submission of Votes for Women to the electorate.)

4. That on a petition of a certain number of voters, a referendum of all voters shall be taken as to whether any elected person shall be recalled from office, or any law shall be repealed.

5. They can insist just as the same things have been, and give Votes to Women. Little though many men politicians care to admit it, this last is the reform that would work greater changes than any other. The following documents from the globe are showing themselves to be less Party bound than men, and it is because men vote on the principle of "my party, right or wrong" that their votes count less than they should.

Nothing could prevent any of these things being carried, if the voters would combine in sufficient numbers to secure them. It is useless for men to blame the voting system when the power to affect change lies with the Parliamentary voter.

It is proposed to form an association of Working Girls' Restaurants and Dinner Clubs" to provide cheap meals for working girls in the districts. A Club for men and girls was formed for the benefit of workers in the Kingsway locality, where five-penny and three-penny dinners are served to members of the club, who pay 2d. a month. The members of the club are junior typists, cashiers and shop assistants. There is no doubt that clubs in the provinces of cheap meals will be formed for working women workers, but we deplore the need of such associations.

The wages of a working woman or girl ought to be large enough to enable her to go to any ordinary restaurant for her meals, and should she wish to go to a crab-soup dinner to have exist on three-penny dinners.

6. That on the 1st of October the Parliamentary voter will have a weapon to help them to fight to obtain higher wages.

At Bow Street, on July 1st, Violet Jeffries, a girl of 19, was brought before the magistrate because she had been at a coffee stall in the same street the previous Saturday. She admitted that she had lived with the gypsies and was used to early rising. She complained that "everyone is down on a poor girl." The magistrate said that he wanted to help her, and urged her to go into a "Home," but the girl refused, saying that she must lead a free life. Unfortunately, many people refuse to understand that freedom is dear to women as well as to men.

Mr. Handel Booth said the other day that when the Bill for the Abolition of Child Half-Timers was before the House of Commons, the Member for Birmingham, Mr. Asquith, started at 33, but fell on the first day to 20, and in the last division, on the fifth day, to 18, of whom half were writing letters.

If women had been considering a question of this kind, such disgraceful apathy would not have been manifested. It is time that Members of Parliament were obliged to answer for their neglect to women voters!

An old woman of 74, Anne Connor, was recently sent to prison for 15 months for stealing blouses. It was said that she had been 60 years in prison for petty offences. What a tragic instance of the Present system's failure to reform?

Women may not vote. They are denied "the vote in the making of the laws," but bitterly and harshly are they punished if they break them. Women's labour is sweatedly grossly so that many women are literally driven by starvation to take other people's goods.

I promise to give £ s. d. to the "No Vote, No Rent" Strikers' Fund after the strike is started.

Name
Address

I promise to give £ s. d. to the "No Vote, No Rent" Strike propaganda.

Name
Address

I promise to join the "No Vote, No Rent" Strike.

Name
Address

E. SYLVIA PANKHURST.

LAWS AND CONDITIONS.

Suffragists are sentenced to three months' imprisonment for free speech, but William Thomas Houghton, a man of 69, who indecently assaulted four little girls in Slough Playing Fields, only got three weeks.

On Saturday night, July 4th, at Quinn's Buildings, Waterloo Road, exciting scenes took place during the arrest of a man accused of assaulting a little girl. All down the narrow stone staircase people tried to strike him. A crowd of many hundreds gathered, and women stood by to see what would happen.

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DISTRICT REPORTS.

BOW AND BROMLEY.
Organiser—MRS. IVES,
321 Roman Road, Bow, E.

Our Sunday evening meetings at 400 Old Ford Road are a huge success, but do wish members would come along better to the Members' Meetings, Mondays 3 p.m., and Fridays 8 p.m. We do want to see all our members. We had a most pleasant and interesting time at Crowder's Hall last Wednesday with Mrs. Davis as speaker. Will members please come along and bring their friends with them to the Wednesdays there. Also support wanted at Swiss Cottage meetings on Mondays 8 p.m. Stall in Roman Road to be open all day Friday and Saturday night on account of the visitors from over the sea. There will also be an open air meeting in the Roman Road. Our stall is proving a great success; more volunteers wanted to take turns in selling. Don't forget the march to Canning Town, Sunday night next. Bow still leads the way in sale of Dreadnoughts. Come along sellers—let us make still greater efforts in selling; we should be seen and known everywhere. Jumble Sale at Crowder's Hall, Monday. Admission by Ticket, 1d. each, to be obtained at 321 Roman Road. Members 3—5 p.m.—Non-members 5—6 p.m. Remember all money (2s. 6d.) for Outing of July 26th, must be paid in by 18th.

Dreadnoughts sold week ending July 3rd: Central 573; Bow and Bromley 573; Miss Bennett 130; Miss Cohen 51; Mrs. Crabbe 50; Miss Marks 57; Mrs. Moore 137; Mrs. Payne 61.

Distributed—Mrs. Lansbury 500; Mrs. Burton 500; Mrs. Moore and Mrs. Connell 387; Miss Boyce 500; Mrs. Knudson and Mrs. McCheyne 350; Miss Turner 400; Mrs. Weaver 200; Mrs. Clarke 200; Mrs. Husted 200; Mrs. Mantle 200; Mrs. Hope 200; Miss Verham 200; Mrs. Watkins 200; Mrs. Lake 50; Mr. Crabbe 50; Mrs. Pascoe 100.

POPLAR.

Organiser—MISS MARY PATERSON.
Office—319 EAST INDIA DOCK ROAD.

Members can get tickets (1d. each) for the Jumble Sale, to be held at Crowder's Hall on Monday next, 3—5 p.m., by applying for them in the office. Good meetings were held in the office on Wednesday and Thursday. It was proposed that in future members and friends who come on Thursday afternoons should bring needlework, to be sold presently for the cause. Please use short time left to help to advertise Canning Town meeting by chalking, bill distributing, etc. Remember that only a week is left in which all the money (2s. 6d.) for the outing of July 26th must be paid in.

Dreadnoughts.—Last week the Misses Laggsold 70, Mrs. Bird, 96; this week Miss Winnats long sold 136, the Misses Laggsold, 50; other members must follow these good examples.

Distributed.

Upper North St. Dist. Captain, Mrs. Bird, 90 Suffolk St. Helpers, Mrs. Bertram, Mrs. Neuss, Mrs. Skeet, Misses Laggsold, Mrs. Cressell, Mrs. Organ—1,500. Chriss St. Dist. Captain, Mrs. Fyffe, 37 Morris Rd. Helper, Miss Edy—400. Kerby St. Dist. Captain, Mrs. Schlette, 128 Kerby St. Helper, Mrs. Churcher—200. Burdett Rd. Dist. Mrs. Walker and Miss Lloyd—300. Mrs. Hicks, 36 Aberfeldy St.—200.

SOUTH WEST HAM.
Hon. Sec.—MRS. DAISY PARSONS.
94 Ravenscroft Road.

Good members' meeting addressed by Miss Hicks and people were very enthusiastic about Savile's Bank Excursion Fund, etc. On Sunday many members went to Women's Hall to hear Dr. Flora Murray and were much impressed by her lecture on "Forcible Feeding." Will all South West Ham members be at 400 Old Ford Road at 6 o'clock sharp on Sunday to form body-guard around the lorry in which Miss Pankhurst will ride. Public Hall, Canning Town, at 8. More volunteers are wanted for *Dreadnought* distribution.

147 *Dreadnoughts* sold week ending July 3 Canning Town. Dist. leader—Mrs. Millio, 1 Ravenscroft Rd. Distributors—Mrs. Sands, Mrs. Roper, Mrs. Oliver and Mrs. Tidmarsh.

Plaistow. Dist. leaders—Mrs. Hawkins, 29 Beaufoy Rd. Distributors—Mrs. Ward and Mrs. Lawrence. Custom House. Dist. leader—Miss Leggett, 74 Chauntler Rd. Distributor—Miss Cox. Tidal Basin. Dist. leader—Miss Penn, 10 Brent Rd. Distributor—Miss Greenleaf. Silvertown. Dist. leader—Miss Grimes, 27 Newland St. Distributors—Miss Florrie Nicholas and friends.

Correction—Last week's sales should be 114 and not 108.

SOUTH HACKNEY.

Secretary—Miss YOUNG,
100 Greenwood Rd., Dalston.

50 *Dreadnoughts* sold during last two weeks.

The *Dreadnought* can now be obtained at the newsagents in Lauriston Road, a few doors from the Swiss Cottage.

Who will pay for Posters of—

The WOMAN'S DREADNOUGHT
to be shown at Railway Stations.
These cost from 20s. to 30s. a
year, and would help the circula-
tion of our Paper tremendously.

OTHER EAST LONDON
SOCIETIES.

E. LONDON MEN'S SOCIETY FOR WS.
Hon. Sec.—ERIC W. ROBERTS.
Hon. Organiser—CHARLES A. WILLIS, B.A.

Excellent meetings held at "Club Roy," Bethnal Green, and other places. There was a splendid rally of members at Hyde Park last Sunday. The speakers next Sunday at "Club Roy," at 12 noon, will be Messrs. Roberts, Clark, Cullen and Journing. The following Sunday our Victoria Park campaign commences, with Miss Elsa Myers and Mr. Roberts as speakers. This next Tuesday (14th inst.) there will be a meeting of the Executive Committee and District Organisers at Crowder's Hall, Bow Road, a/p 8 p.m. Members are requested on no account to miss joining the procession from 400 Old Ford Road on Sunday evening, July 12th, at 6 o'clock, to protest Miss Pankhurst from re-arrest.

R. S. P. U.

Hon. Sec.—MR. J. BONARIOUS.

Meetings arranged—Wednesday, July 15th, 2nd Floor, Bow, 8 p.m. Thursday, July 16th, St. Michael's Church, Bow, 8 p.m. Friday, July 17th, East India Dock Gates, Poplar, 8 p.m.

Excellent meetings held last week at Fort Road and St. Michael's Church.

Tickets for the R.S.P.U. outing to Hastings on Sunday, July 19th, price 4s 9d, including fare and tea may be obtained from W. Whitelock, 76 Jodrell Rd., and of the Hon. Secretary.

PLAY NURSERY AT THE
WOMEN'S HALL.

It has been decided to start a Play Nursery at the Women's Hall, Bow, to be held on Sunday afternoons, in order both to amuse the children and to provide an opportunity for the mothers to be free to take part in processions and demonstrations. The Nursery will be held from 3 to 5 p.m., or later when necessary. The Nursery is for children under 10. Mothers are asked to bring their own cushions for babies in arms.

VOTES FOR WOMEN CHOIR.

The practices of the Votes for Women Choir will be held on Thursday evenings, at 400 Old Ford Road, Bow. The Choir is learning Dr. Ethel Smyth's "1910" and "The Women's March." Dr. Smyth's opera "The Wreckers" is to have an elaborate production at the Court Theatre, Munich, in February next, and her new comic opera based on "The Bosun's Mate" a story by W. W. Jacobs, is to be produced at Frankfort-on-Main in March.

FOR OUR FUNDS.

We gratefully acknowledge the following: Mrs Head £1, Mrs Cavendish-Bentinck £2, Miss V. Head £1, Miss Frisby 2/-, Miss Harley 10/-, Mrs Gow 5/-, Anon 2/-, Dr Helen Hanson 2/-, Anon 2/-, Dr Adeline Roberts 10/-, Mrs Bacon 5/-, Mrs K. Noakes 1/-, Mrs Richmond 10/-, Mrs Wilcock 10/-, Miss E. Gore-Brown 2/-, Miss A. C. Adshead 2/-, Anon 10/-, Mrs Lehmann 5/-, Anon 2/-, Miss Staley 10/-, Miss Fox 12/- and ring, Mrs F. E. Evans 10/-, Mrs Farmer 5/-, Mrs King 2/-, Miss R. Mackenzie 2/-, Dr. Elizabeth Wilkes 5/-, Miss Muriel Thompson 10/-, Mrs Hartley 2/-, Miss Marie Lawson 2/-, Miss Holmes 5/-, Miss L. James 10/-, Mrs E. Parsons 10/-, Anon (from Dr. Duley) 10/-, Miss Lewellyn Davies 2/-, Anon 4/-, Miss Irene Lewisohn 2/-, Mrs. Cooke 10/-, Miss R. Aitken 5/-, Mrs. Munro 2/-, Mrs. Meinetzhang 2/-, Anon 2/-, Mary T. Arnison 10/-, Miss A. M. Bain 6/-, Mrs. Monck Mason 2/-, Miss Beatrice Harraden 2/-, Anon 4/-, Anon 10/-.

SELF DENIAL: Miss G. Sheldon 5/-, Mrs Marks £2 2/-, Miss Young 12/-.

THE LABOUR MARKET.

A sub Post Office assistant pointed out to the *Daily Citizen* the other day that whilst a laundry company had been fined £7 10s. Od. for employing a woman for 12 hours with an interval of half-an-hour for dinner, a girl, probably the writer of the letter, had been employed "in a sweltering little post office from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. with only a half hour's interval for meals." The writer asked why the laundry was fined for the offence and not the Postmaster General, who is responsible for the sweating of women in London Post Offices. When women have the vote and the power to elect the Members of Parliament from whom the Government is chosen, they will be able to ask that question with effect.

Forty women are on strike at Messrs. Wootton & Co.'s hat factory, Bedworth, Warwickshire.

Women are on strike for an increase of wages at the Bantam Mills, Kilsyth. The fires have been extinguished and the men employees payed off, as the management believe that the dispute will last for some time.

One hundred and twenty women are on strike at Messrs. Chalmers & Co., rag-sorts of Leith. Some of the girls are only getting 7s. a week for doing this very horrible work.

Sir J. Compton Rickett's Select Committee of the House of Commons, have refused to set up a Trade Board to prevent the sweating of Laundry workers. The Committee say that they have not yet enough evidence.

WOMEN PRISON
REFORMERS.

New York State recently appointed Dr. Katherine Benten Davis, who has built up the wonderfully successful reformatory for women prisoners on the lines of a technical school, at Bedford Hills, to be Chief Commissioner, both of men's and women's prisons for the whole of New York State. The American "jail" acts as a police court and remand and short sentence prison. The present New York City "jail" is called the Tombs. The women's side of the Tombs is the oldest, and has the worst accommodation.

Here large numbers of women are herded together to wait in a single room, without any attempt at classification, and two or more are put to occupy the same cell both day and night, the women's cells being very much smaller than those of the men. In many of the cells there is absolutely no daylight. There is practically no attempt to segregate women suffering from contagious diseases. The medical examination is made in a room into which all the women are crowded, and there is no attempt to separate the women during exercise.

After her inspection of the Tombs, Dr. Davis vigorously denounced the appalling conditions prevailing there. A new "jail" for women, which Dr. Davis insists shall be called not a "jail," but a "Detention Home," is now to be erected. The plans for this have been thought out by Dr. Davis, the Women's Municipal League, and a number of other organisations in which women play a prominent part. In the new "Detention Home" each woman is to be shown to wait in a separate room. The women who have been sentenced are to sleep in separate rooms, which are as unlike cells as possible, and a typical floor in the "Detention Home" will approximate to a hospital or sanitorium rather than a "jail." The rooms are to be arranged twelve on each floor, and the occupants are to be carefully classified in groups. For instance: one group of shop-lifters, another group of old offenders, and so on. Formerly the prison was kept clean by women from the "Workhouse," which in America is also a kind of prison. But Dr. Davis proposes to give all the prisoners "enough to do to keep them normally busy." The tables will be laid and the dishes washed by the women themselves, and the entire work of the floor done by them. Dr. Davis says: "My experience at Bedford Hills has taught me that work is one of the best correctives, and I am certain that the work in this 'Detention Home' can be made interesting."

Although the most modern conveniences in the direction of plumbing, lighting, heating, ventilation and sanitation, which have hitherto been denoted as too costly, are being fitted in the new "Detention Home," those who have examined the plans of this building say that: in proportion to its capacity there is no jail or prison in New York which has been built at a lower cost per cubic foot. What is the reason of this? On the one hand, there has been much intelligent and careful planning, and on the other, the women have seen to it that there shall be none of the "graft" on the part of the unscrupulous officials and elected persons from which America has so greatly suffered in the past.

A WOMAN DOCTOR APPOINTED FOR

AYLESBURY.

Signs of the times are at last beginning to show themselves in the administration of our prisons. In 1908 Dr. Mary Gordon was appointed as the first woman inspector of prisons in this country in response to the agitation of Suffragettes and the revelations of Suffragette prisoners. Now Miss Selina Fox, M.D., late superintendent of the Bermondsey Medical Mission, has been appointed to be lady superintendent and deputy medical officer of the Women's Convict Prison and Girls' Borstal Reformatory, the Preventive Detention Prison and Inebriate Reformatory at Aylesbury.

Dr. Gordon was appointed site introduced a number of reforms. For the Holloway pint-pot out-of-court which prisoners took their morning gruel, was substituted the earthenware mug; the stool without a back was changed for a chair; for that germ-carrier the wooden spoon was substituted a metal spoon; more important still,

sliding panes were fitted to the windows in order that fresh outside air might enter the cells, a thing which had not been known to happen before in Holloway; night dresses and garters were also supplied to the women, and three buttons instead of one were put on to the front of their bodices; sun bonnets were supplied for wear at exercise in mid-summer, because many prisoners fainted in the yard. These improvements were received with great gratitude by the prison inmates.

Perhaps it is due to the fact that Dr. Gordon is responsible for inspecting every prison in the country, a work which no one could do adequately, that her reforms soon apparently came to an end, although much remains to be done. Perhaps it is due to the fact that the Home Office has refused to allow her to make any changes.

We hope that Dr. Fox, who will be able to exert a more constant supervision over the犯獄, will be allowed to come into direct personal contact with the inmates, will be able to accomplish very much more than has been possible to Dr. Gordon.

In this week's issue we publish an interesting account of the new women's prison which is being erected under the supervision of Dr. Davis of New York City. The remarkable achievements of Dr. Davis in the field of prison reform are attracting the notice of the most up-to-date criminologists in all parts of the world; but Dr. Davis has not had to contend with our stereotyped and castigated Home Office.

We regret that the Home Office has not had the courage to place Miss Fox at the head of the Aylesbury institutions and that she is only to be Deputy Medical Officer and Lady Superintendent, not Governor. This will mean that she will have to appeal always to male superiors, who, if they wish, will have the power to veto any reform that she may suggest.

MAGISTRATE SHOWS COMMON
SENSE.

The other day a man who had thrown a stone in his wife's face and repeatedly beaten her, was sent to prison for three months' hard labour. The man had only been giving his wife a few shillings a week out of his earnings, so that she had been obliged to go out to work to keep herself and her children, as well as caring for the home. When he was sent in the dock the wife beat cried and said "Oh, please do not send me away for the sake of my children." Mr. Fordham allowed the wife, 10s. a week out of the poor box during the man's imprisonment, saying: "I do not allow the wives and children of brutal husbands to suffer." There was applause in court.

Unfortunately, this action of Mr. Fordham's is most exceptional, for it is the usual practice in our country to allow the ill-used or deserted wife and her children to starve or do the best she can for herself.

It is urgently necessary that women should have the political power to make some definite arrangement for all such cases. They will do so when they get the vote.

VOTES FOR WOMEN IN AMERICA.

There is great rejoicing amongst the women of Illinois, the State of which Chicago is the capital. A few weeks ago we published an account of the enthusiasm which prevailed when the newly enfranchised women first took part in an election.

Meanwhile, a certain Mr. William J. Scown brought an action to have it declared by the Courts that the granting of votes to women was contrary to the American Constitution. Having lost his case in the Superior Court, he appealed to the Supreme Court, but the case was again decided in favour of the women, and it was said that Mr. Scown had endeavoured to turn the clock back 22 years.

In the State of Missouri it is the law that if 23,000 signatures can be obtained, laws may be submitted to the voters of the State without going through the legislature. The women of Missouri have just secured the 23,000 signatures in support of their enfranchisement. The task was a difficult one owing to the fact that in several counties there are no railroads. The question will be submitted to the voters of Missouri in 1915, and it is practically certain that the women will win their votes.

O BRITONS.

BY AN AMERICAN.
O Britons, for shame; have a care what you do;
The mothers and sisters and daughters, like you,
Are human withal, and are conscious of pain;
Your forcible feeding is surely insane.

O Britons; for shame; the whole world you now vex;

It's a question of brains, not a question of sex.

The nation that meets its best brains with brute force

Goes down to destruction as matter of course.

O Britons; for shame; take your hands off the vote;

It's not yours to hold; your offence we all note.

"British Justice," it seems, is only for men born in England, with pedigree, where, and when.

O Britons; for shame; in the light of this age, Your cat-and-mouse law, would dishonour the page.

A Hottentot solon would make of his work, You out-herod Herod; you rival the Turk.

O Britons; for shame; call a halt in your course,

And substitute justice for rule of brute force.

The spirit of justice sweeps on round the world,

Its banner of freedom forever unfurled.

JAMES E. CAMPION.

29 HANCOCK STREET,
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, U.S.A.