

THE VOTE,
July 3rd, 1914.
ONE PENNY

JUDICIAL BARBARITY.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

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FRIDAY, JULY 3, 1914

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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.

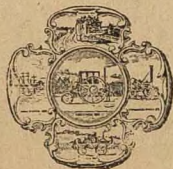
HONOURS FOR WOMEN.

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Cabinet Unres.

The prevailing unrest appears to be as conspicuous in the Cabinet as in less exalted circles, if one may accept the rumours so persistently circulated as representing anything in the nature of fact. No Government has played the old game of "general post" so persistently as the present one, the trouble probably being that incompetents, like Herbert Gladstone and Reginald McKenna, for those reasons which officialdom accepts but will not divulge, have to be provided with positions. When their abject incompetency becomes too glaringly evident a re-arrangement of seats becomes necessary. On top of the rumour that Sir Edward Henry is to go and that Colonel Seely is to take his place, comes the report that Mr. McKenna is to grace the War Office and Mr. Ellis Griffiths to have the pleasing job of clearing up at the Home Office. We give it for what it is worth, wondering how Colonel Seely, after enjoying Cabinet rank, will like being subordinate to one who has hitherto been subordinate to him; and how the wrangling Army elements will enjoy exchanging the control of Mr. Asquith for that of his weirdly unsuccessful colleague.

Where We Come In.

Nevertheless, these rumours have grave import for women. We do not know if any precedent exists for an ex-Cabinet minister becoming Commissioner of Police. It may be absolutely unheard of and impossible, but this is a Government that does strange and unprecedented things. What we have to remember is this: Women have a deep and grave concern in the appointment of officials such as the Commissioner of Police. The almost arbitrary power possessed by him and the men he controls, the absence of any department in police work staffed and controlled by women, and the growing determination of women to resist and destroy the scandalous misuse of trust and protection and vice that undoubtedly prevails at present, gives them a definite right to some control over such appointments. Colonel Seely is notorious as an anti-Suffragist; he belonged to a Cabinet which openly ranged itself on the side of those who hushed up the disgraceful Piccadilly flat scandal and protected the male criminals who financed and controlled the establishment. We want no one of that kind at Scotland Yard. It is our duty to enter a protest against the appointment before it is too late.

The "Terrible Scourge of Violence."

In Scotland a certain public official deliberately incited students to commit outrages on Suffragists by saying, in regard to certain charges, that things had not been done which might have been done—with the result that almost immediately gangs of student hooligans proceeded to commit the acts this gentleman was so surprised to find they had not yet thought of! Mr. Lister Drummond, police court magistrate, excused some other hooligans for attacking women by quoting the "disgust" with which all decent people looked upon Suffragette outrages; practically, it seemed to us, condoning far worse outrages—outrages on the bodies of the defenceless women who were mobbed by these high-souled champions of law and order. Mr. Hopkins indulged in gloomy forebodings of what would happen to Freedom Leaguers when "some day" the mob took matters into their own hands. Mr. Garrett, of the South-Western Police Court, went a step further and told some youths who had mobbed a young woman, who was "a stranger to the

Suffragette movement," that they must "be careful to discriminate between Suffragettes and peaceful citizens." What we want to know is: Do these gentlemen believe in militancy, and are they desirous of suppressing the Suffragette movement by seeing "the terrible scourge of violence" directed against women?

We note that not one single word of rebuke or protest has been uttered by Mr. George for the savage scenes of violence that took place at his recent meeting in South London, when some girls, and a clergyman who intervened to protect them, were murderously assaulted. The police were not required at that meeting, we were told, because the Liberal stewards had full instructions what to do should disturbances arise! So these Liberal stewards, and the organisers of Mr. George's meeting have between them made Mr. George their accomplice in crimes of violence; and this, in persons who make the laws, and who have a special object and obligation in upholding them, seems to us exceptionally improper. The crimes of violence committed by unbalanced Liberals and their hooligan associates far exceed in ferocity and wickedness any committed by the "wildest" women, and are, besides, unnatural and revolting. And what we want to know is how far these gentlemen, magistrates and Cabinet ministers, believe in violence, and how far they resemble those supporters of the militant Suffrage movement, who were so sternly denounced by Mr. McKenna and the entire London Press because they did not commit the crimes themselves, but incited and provided inducements for others to do so?

Happy—and Wise—Hampstead.

Sincere congratulation to Mrs. Nevinson on the success of her motion, at the last meeting of the Hampstead Board of Guardians, supporting Lord Henry Bentinck's amendment to the Criminal Justice Administration Bill that 2 or more police women should be appointed in county and metropolitan boroughs. She received strong support from most of the men and all the women on the Board, and carried the motion by 10 to 3. We hope to hear of other Boards of Guardians showing in the same way that they realise the importance of this overdue and much-needed reform.

The First of a Monthly Series of Services of prayer and intercession in connection with the Suffrage question will be held in St. George's Church, Bloomsbury, on Wednesday, July 22nd, at 8 p.m. The Bishop of London has given his cordial approval, and writes: "I fully realise the importance of the question. The more quietly these services are carried out, the more they will impress people with the sincerity of the cause for which they are held." The address will be given by Canon Todd. Suffragists will realise that the opportunity afforded by these services is of importance to the cause. We trust they will be well supported.

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THE PRESIDENT'S BIRTHDAY PARTY.

On the afternoon of Tuesday, July 7th, the President will be "At Home" (by kind permission of Mrs. Harvey) at Brackenhill, Highland Road, Bromley, from 3.30 to 6 p.m. She will be delighted to welcome every member and friend of the Women's Freedom League who can possibly go to see her.

Tree planting at 5 p.m.
The most convenient train leaves Victoria at 2.50 p.m. Book to Shortlands Station, where the train will be met by representatives of the League. The train back to Victoria leaves Shortlands at 6.15. Special return tickets 1s. 2d.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.
E. KNIGHT.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

HYDE PARK.—We have now finished our Caxton Hall meetings for this session, but on the remaining Wednesday afternoons in July, from 3.30 to 5 p.m., we shall hold a meeting in Hyde Park on the grass near Marble Arch, and shall be delighted to see as many friends as possible at these open-air meetings. Next Wednesday the speaker will be Miss Eunice Murray. Miss Murray will also address a meeting on Clapham Common the same evening at 6.30.

CARAVAN.—Our caravan is now at Peterborough. Will readers who have friends in the neighbourhood kindly communicate with Miss Goddard, Post Office, Peterborough? We hope to have a splendid campaign round this centre.

LANCASHIRE COAST CAMPAIGN.—Miss Andrews has decided to extend her summer campaign to the Isle of Man, in which district she will be from the middle of July until the end of August, reserving the first fortnight in September for New Brighton. Speakers, sellers and workers of every description are urgently needed, both in the Isle of Man and at New Brighton.
F. A. UNDERWOOD.

SUGGESTED LIST OF HONOURS

FOR
SUBMISSION TO HIS MAJESTY.

Imperial Services.

Lady Lugard (Flora Shaw).
Miss Meriel Talbot, Victoria League.
Lady Henry Somerset.
Mrs. Annie Besant.
Miss Haldane, work in connection with Army.
Miss Agnes Weston, work in connection with Navy.

Social Service.

Miss Margaret MacMillan, School Clinic work.
Councillor Margaret Ashton.
Mrs. Bramwell Booth.
Lady Frances Balfour.
Mrs. Sidney Webb.
Miss Eva Gore Booth.
Miss Esther Roper.
Miss Mary MacArthur.
Mrs. Creighton.

Mrs. Barnett.

Writers.

Flora Annie Steel.
Olive Schreiner.
Alice Meynell.
Lady Gregory.

Art.

Ellen Terry.
Lena Ashwell.
Miss Horniman.
Madame Clara Butt.
Dr. Ethel Smyth.
Lucy Kemp Welch.

Science.

Mrs. Hertha Ayrton.
Lady Huggins.
Dr. Annie Porter.
Mrs. Gordon Ogilvie.
Dr. Scharlieb.
Dr. Garrett Anderson.

Education.

Emily Davies.
Frances Dove.
Isabella Cleghorn.
Miss Jones.
Isabella Lumsden.
Sophie Bryant.

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Miss Edith Durham, War Correspondent.
Miss Violet Markham, Publicist and Philanthropist.
Lady Aberconway, Politician.
Maude Royden, Speaker and Writer.

Matrons of Hospitals.

Miss McIntoch (St. Bartholomew's).
Miss Lloyd Still (St. Thomas's).
Miss Louise Victoria Haughton (Guy's).
Miss E. C. E. Luckes (London).
Miss E. McCall Anderson (St. George's).
Miss Young (Westminster).
Miss M. McEvoy (Anti-Vivisection).
Miss A. M. Bird (Great Northern Central).
Miss I. C. Bennett (Metropolitan).
Miss B. Sherratt (Cancer).
Miss Garrett (Lock Hospital).

The above list does not by any means exhaust the roll of women who have deserved sufficiently well of their country to obtain recognition for their service from the King. There are, for instance, none of the public-spirited women of the Oversea Dominions, and only a selected few from the many fields of activity now occupied by women. For obvious reasons, we have not included the three great leaders of the Suffrage Movement, whose fight is still being waged. But the names, picked out at hazard from an embarrassing wealth of choice, will give some idea of the kind of persons to whom honour is due and yet denied; and we venture confidently to assert that there is not one name in our list that is not of greater standing and value than any single name in the King's Birthday List, with the outstanding exception of Lord Kitchener.
C. NINA BOYLE.

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"THE SPIRITUAL IMPULSE BEHIND THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT."

At the International Congress of the Young Women's Christian Association just concluded at Stockholm, and presided over by the Hon. Mrs. M. Waldegrave, an interesting paper was contributed by Miss Una Saunders, a Canadian delegate, on "The Spiritual Impulse Behind the Woman's Movement."

That such a paper should find a place at this Congress of an Association founded long before the Woman's Movement came into visible being, an Association of a purely religious and philanthropic nature, far removed from the realm of politics of whatsoever nature, is in itself a significant fact showing how this same Woman's Movement has poured its vitalising insistent spirit into every body of thoughtful men and women.

"The great underlying cause of the Woman's Movement," said Miss Saunders, "is the Will of God. We trace His Spirit like a mighty stream urging us onward, and, breaking against its banks, making new channels for itself; owing its inception to the fact that for the full realisation of God in the world, we need both men and women to show forth the character of God.

"Male and female created He them," when He said "Let us make man in our image." Only side by side can they bring to the world all that God wishes to show of Himself. If only one part of humanity is permitted full development you cannot have the fullness of God in the world. Hitherto down through the ages woman has been developed fully only on one side of her nature. We are awaking now to see that there are other realms of thought and action which must find opportunity for the expression of that part of the Godhead only so to be revealed."

"The two secondary causes for the Woman's Movement," Miss Saunders gave as education and industry. In the Colleges of the United States of America men and women work together equally in student life and self government. It is not easy then afterwards for women to find themselves subordinated to men in all other forms of administration. It is equally difficult for some of the ablest women to content themselves with the sphere allotted them in the Churches, where in many countries they do most of the work without being allowed any responsibility or voice on the Councils. We touch here," said she, "on a delicate subject, but we cannot ignore that many men as well as women are asking whether there is not a fuller form of ministry which should be gladly received from women endowed with powers which mark them as great spiritual leaders and guides."

"The development of industry has also brought about momentous changes for women," added Miss Saunders, "for thousands are now pressed out of their homes both among industrial and professional classes. These economic changes must be accepted as part of the present place of life. Meanwhile we trace the working of the Spirit of God in the pain and protest of thousands of women against a life which forces them to work under conditions making home life impossible."

Miss Saunders pointed out four main characters of the Woman's Movement. First, it is world-wide, no country can be said to be untouched by it. Even the women of the East—China and India—are entering many spheres of professional and industrial life. It is world-wide also in the sense that women of all classes are included in its penetrating

influence. Women of leisure, professional women and factory hands are alike affected. And in this woman's demand for enfranchisement, for the Vote, it must never be forgotten they are asking it *not* for themselves so much as for other women, the majority would gladly renounce all claim to a Vote for themselves could they win it for their sisters. They realise as never before 'ye are all members of one another.' And this characteristic is that the movement is a great effort at self-realisation, there being, as Mrs. Saunders showed, whole tracks of woman's nature hitherto without opportunity of development.

The third characteristic she gave as Service. The narrow limiting of home and family life no longer suffice. Economically they are impossible, men having taken away one by one nearly all the old home industries, such as weaving, baking and brewing, etc. And the call of duty to serve their kind has also taken women out of their homes to serve on Workhouse Committees, in hospitals, on Boards of Guardians, in founding Girls' Clubs and Women's Unions and countless public services for children.

Some people deplore that just at this juncture many women who till now gave their services to philanthropic work, turn all their efforts to Suffrage work. This, said Miss Saunders, is not difficult to understand if we apply a simple and practical simile: If there be in the body some sore spot all the healing powers of the blood rush to that place to restore it, and only when this is done is the normal circulation set right. So will it be with the Woman's Movement."

As the fourth leading characteristic she gave knowledge—a new knowledge of conditions under which our sisters live, and this knowledge has given birth to a passion, the passion which stands for suffering. Formerly kept in the dark, we have now been forced to know. And through this door we have entered in a sacrificial way into touch with the tragedy of other women's lives. Having once learnt we can never forget. "Just as Christ came down into this world to feel its deepest woe so we, too, are allowed to descend and help in the vicarious suffering that redeems men and women."

Referring to militancy as one of the dangers of the movement, Miss Saunders said: "If only the men in our Churches had been with us from the start there would have been little danger of militancy. It is because of that great solid wall of resistance against which the Woman's Movement has fruitlessly hurled itself again and again that women have turned to militant modes of attack. If those of us who declare we know of a force greater than the physical, the force of prayer, had used that weapon in this service, surely there would not have been the same temptation to militancy."

She suggested three lines of practical advance. First, to *know*, for we should not dare to call any men or women Christian in any sense of the word who are willing to shut their eyes to the pain and anguish inflicted by sin, instead of working for its removal. Secondly, that men and women should stand united for a single standard of purity, which could be achieved if only each did his utmost, aided by the powers of God. And thirdly, a new vision of the comradeship between man and woman. "Nothing draws people together like a great crusade," said Miss Saunders; "to this we are called that the vision of God may be made known to the world by men and women side by side expressing Him in His varied aspects."

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JUDICIAL BARBARITY.

Among the services rendered by Edith Watson in her attendance at the Criminal Courts, not the least is the vivid light she throws upon the conduct of the business that occupies those Courts. In the constant clamour sent up by men that women are mercifully treated, privileged, protected, dealt with on all occasions more leniently than men, the great mass of women, shut out by occupation, and opportunity, and their far less criminal instincts, from any contact with the administration of "justice," are confused and become sceptical of the statements put forward by those who know. Frantic efforts are being made, in the Press and by members of the legal profession, to keep the truth from the gradually awakening world of women. A few days spent with Edith Watson between the Old Bailey and the Clerkenwell Sessions would more effectually rouse those women than columns of Press matter.

A more distressing and pitiable spectacle than that of a woman or girl of the "unfortunate" class, standing for hours in the witness box—the Court cleared of women because of the "indecent" matter involved—to be badgered and brow-beaten by the trained intellects of men whose business it is to protect the vile privileges of their sex, it would be difficult to find. On these occasions it is common for the Bench to convert itself into an additional assistant to the male cause, and to join in creating prejudice against the woman who owns to an immoral life. The shameful indulgence by which judges allow counsel to repeat and reiterate senseless questions, whose sole purpose is to confuse, and not to elicit genuine information, has reached a stage at which it calls for severest condemnation.

At Lewes Assizes recently, a girl of 13 was kept for *six hours* in the witness box answering questions

involving details of such filthiness that the soul sickened. When, shrinking, she would not answer, counsel bullyingly suggested that she dared not because she had been telling untruths all along. When, desperate, she spoke out, the filthiness of the details was used in the same unscrupulous way to discredit her. The case was tried twice; and when convicted, the man appealed and got off on a technical point! No male protection, in the Courts, for this child's conviction.

Among the cases quoted this week in "The 'Protected' Sex" column are those of two children subjected to indecent assault under almost similar circumstances; the one being a boy and the other a girl. The prosecution of the case on behalf of the boy was conducted without the child being brought into Court, it being stated that he has been corrupted enough already. We should like to see the reception such a plea would get in the case of a little girl; and we have yet to find counsel who would dream of spoiling his case by so sparing the tender feelings of a girl child!

Judicial barbarity has, however, reached its highest level in the treatment of women prisoners who are ill. Mr. McKenna has acknowledged, openly and with a measure of pride, that torture for women imprisoned in connection with the Suffrage Movement had been re-established as a portion of prison treatment for which he is responsible; and that under forcible feeding—which used to be described as beneficial medical treatment—these women suffer far more than if they served their legitimate sentences. But torture is inflicted also before they are sentenced at all; and the spectacle, witnessed several times recently, of women dragged into Court, it being stated that he had been plead or to listen or to understand, while the farce of a trial is carried on over their heads, is a thing to "stagger humanity." It does not read like something happening in Britain in the twentieth century; it is more like one of those "old, forgotten, far-off things" that shock our susceptibilities when we read them in the pages of history.

Julia Decies, stricken with syphilis and within a short period of her confinement, dragged half-conscious into Court, while the inhuman creature of whom she tried to rid the world was being tenderly cared for in hospital, is one of these tragic figures. In another case already reported, a woman carried out of the dock when fainting and in again when showing signs of life, unable even to understand the nature of the proceedings, or to care how they ended; the Judge pausing in his remarks when she collapsed and continuing them from the same point the moment her inanimate form was deposited once more before him—due regard being maintained for the principle that the trial could not proceed in the absence of the prisoner—furnished another instance of this inhuman barbarity on the part of men whose boast is that women are

privileged and protected by them. Nellie Hall, untried and unconvicted, but nevertheless forcibly fed one hundred times, and in the last stages of physical collapse from her treatment at the hands of McKenna's inquisitors; and many another heroic figure; stand in the same position. A Court of male judges, jury, counsel, officers, police and spectators see these things unmoved, and go forth thence to tell uninstructed audiences, with unctious self-approval, how they protect women from insult and injury, and how privileged a position those women enjoy under the law and its gentle administration by the male sex. C. NINA BOYLE.

THE "PROTECTED" SEX,

Criminal Courts;—Old Bailey.

FRANCIS NICHOLSON, 38, was charged on June 23rd, before the Common Sergeant with indecently assaulting Freddy Blackwell, aged 8, in Highbury Fields. P.C. Holmes saw the prisoner and little boy together. Being off duty, he fetched a park keeper and the man was later given into custody. Prisoner pleaded not guilty, and the jury failed to agree on a verdict. A jurymen asked why the little boy had not been called as a witness, and prosecuting counsel said "The boy has been corrupted enough; we do not want his little mind further corrupted by having to go through it all again." On Wednesday prisoner was tried before another jury who gave a verdict of not guilty, "because there was not sufficient evidence to convict."

Contrast.

At Clerkenwell on June 25th, before Mr. Justice Laurie, FREDERICK HARTLEY, 40, a repulsive looking man with pock-marked face, one eye, paralysed arm and withered leg was charged with indecently assaulting Susan Wilson, aged 10, in Battersea Park. A young man who saw the assault fetched the park keeper and took the man to the police station. Prisoner was found guilty, and Mr. Laurie giving sentence said "Children playing in public parks must be protected from scoundrels like you. Twelve months' hard labour."

Note that in the previous case the little boy was allowed to go away after being examined by the doctor and found to be quite uninjured. In the second case the little girl had to give evidence, both at the Police Court and the Criminal Court, and she had been injured physically as well as being, in Mr. Laurie's words, "tortured mentally" in cross-examination.

JOHN O'BRIEN, 28, was charged before the Common Sergeant on June 24th at the Old Bailey with wounding Martha French, assaulting Eliza French and also stealing a suit-case from Cecil Garstang. Prisoner, on the occasion of the wounding, was drunk and quarrelling with a coloured man named Peters. The two struggled on the road and O'Brien, rising to his feet, struck at a bystander, Martha French, with his knife. She has lost one eye in consequence, and the scandalous sentence was given of six months for injury to the woman and fifteen months for stealing the suit-case, to run concurrently.

Before Mr. Justice Avery, ALBERT DIBB, 31, was charged with murdering his little daughter, Ethel, aged 12 months, and attempting to commit suicide. Prisoner, previous to committing the act, had written a remarkable letter to his brother saying that the last time his wife refused "the duties of a wife" she told him to go to a street woman and stop the cost out of her money—which he did. He had through that act contracted syphilis, and as life was not worth living he decided to end it and take his little girl with him. Some explanation of the wife's conduct may be found in the fact that Dibb's father's mother died in an asylum, his mother's father also, his mother's uncle committed suicide and his father's uncle died from tuberculosis. A doctor said the prisoner was a "self-centred, consequential man of melancholy disposition, which developed into hypochondriacal melancholia." The idea of syphilis was a pure delusion. Detained during His Majesty's pleasure.

Before the Common Sergeant on Friday EDITH MELVILLE, 23, was charged with committing perjury at Marylebone Police Court by swearing that her sister's child was her own in order to obtain an affiliation order against Hugh McKenna, a man of means. She denied the perjury, and in the witness-box and in the dock gave Judge, counsel and McKenna a few home truths. "We stoop to satisfy these men," she cried, "and when we are in trouble they cut us off and we are left to support their children in the only way open to us—by immorality." "You are all here, all men, with your lies and your laws to fight against one poor girl." "I think all girls ought to worry such men and get them into trouble and worry, and perhaps this sort of thing would stop." "It's the children who suffer and

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Westminster Palace Hotel.

10.0 a.m. BUSINESS MEETING of DELEGATES
3.30 p.m. PUBLIC MEETING.

Chair: SIR JOHN COCKBURN, K.C.M.G.

Speakers: Miss Margaret Hodge, Mrs. Leathes,

Mrs. M. Mayer, Mrs. Montefiore, Mrs. Wybergh, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Aberconway, Mrs. Cecil Chapman, Rev. F. M. Green, Mrs. Auerbach.

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the woman who pays." Her story was that Hugh McKenna met her and asked her to let him keep her on certain conditions, one of them being that she would do for him what his black women had done (he had been in Brazil), and she consented. He declared himself anxious for her to have a child, she alleged, and when she told him it was going to happen he reminded her of her previous life, and said no one would take her word against his, and cast her off. He sent her insulting postcards (which the Judge would not examine), and when she went to see him he was given police protection. She refused to say where her child had been born, because the people had been good to her, and she wanted to spare them. Her history was a sad and unfortunate one; she married, quite young, a man who already had a wife and has brought up his child ever since. She got work at 6s. a week (starvation wages), and on another occasion was a domestic servant. The greatest crime at this time of her life seems to have been getting up late and staying out late at night. She had cut a man's throat for deserting her, and had been given twelve months, and was in 1913 bound over for committing bigamy. Found guilty of perjury, twelve months' hard labour.

Before Mr. Justice Avery, NELLIE HALL was charged with being in possession of explosives. Mr. Bodkin, as usual, recounted a horrible tale wherein fact and fiction were beautifully blended. Miss Hall, faint and haggard with forcible feeding, one hundred times while still unconvicted, conducted her own defence, and made a telling speech from the dock, defending militancy and pointing out that the greatest crimes of the women did not approach the militancy of the men in the Bristol and Nottingham riots. She asked if Carson had been arrested or forcibly fed, and yet he was threatening the horrors of civil war if the rights of a few men were interfered with. She read Mary Richardson's description of forcible feeding, and said that the charges against her or any other militants were nothing compared to the charges which will be brought against men of to-day by posterity. She was found guilty and recommended to mercy. The monstrousness of the legal profession may be seen in the statement made over and over to me that had she employed counsel to defend her she would have gone free, as there was no case against her! EDITH M. WATSON.

With the Caravan.

On our arrival at Huntingdon from St. Neots I said "Good-bye" with much regret to Mrs. Huntsman, Mrs. Tippett and Mrs. Tritton, who returned to London. I have kept the flag flying by doing propaganda work in the streets and by calling on the residents. THE VOTE has sold extremely well. Many working men buy it and speak to me afterwards about our policy and the contents of the paper, showing they study it. This is extremely gratifying, for I am told no suffrage paper has ever been sold before in the streets of Huntingdon. Many sympathisers' cards have been signed, and almost every one to whom I have spoken is in favour of votes for women. I heard that a certain number of youths in the town intended to give us a very warm reception at a public meeting, but on June 24th, when Miss Underwood came for the day, we had an excellent hearing at our meeting on Market Hill; a large crowd gathered and was quite orderly. Miss Underwood spoke on the policy and work of the Women's Freedom League. She told about Dr. Knight's arrest and almost immediate release, and insisted that women demanded the vote because they came within the qualifications laid down for the enfranchisement of men. The militancy of the League was directed against the Government, not against the public. The Government would be attacked as long as justice was denied to women. I also spoke in the Market Place on Monday morning. FRANCES GODDARD.

Success at Reading.

Miss Anna Munro's visit here and splendid speeches roused great interest. The meetings were well attended and orderly, with the exception of the Friday night (Cork Street) meeting, when an ugly rush was made by a band of rowdies with the intention of overturning the vehicle from which Miss Munro was speaking. Fortunately, friends and believers in free speech and fair play were present in sufficient numbers to hold them in check until the police arrived. Miss Munro continued her speech throughout the disturbance, thereby gaining much admiration for her pluck and courage, a trebled and intensely interested crowd, and fair hearing. Many at the close of the meeting bought THE VOTE. E.A.P.

VALUE and STYLE.—When the well-known firm of Harvey Nichols, Knightsbridge, announces a sale, everyone knows that for the sake of its long-established reputation, value and style are certain. This year's summer sale begins on July 6 and ends on July 31. Remarkable bargains will be offered, but the best choice will be for the early comers. Dresses for all occasions, including French models, coats in great variety, furs, underwear, household linen, chintz, cretonne, boots and shoes, are reduced to irresistible prices. The Joyce, Anita and Flora are dainty crepon, linen and silk gowns from 35s. 6d. to £5 5s. It is an opportunity not to be missed. Write for a catalogue.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd.,
2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

FRIDAY, July 3rd, 1914.

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.

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

ASQUITH AMONG THE PROPHETS.

The Budget debate of last Friday was made memorable by a speech from Mr. Asquith, the extreme cleverness of which no one can deny. Addressing the country through the House of Commons, he asserted boldly not only that the expenditure proposed and adopted by the Government had been, to the last halfpenny, necessary, but that it reflected the benevolent desires of the Nation as represented by successive Parliaments. Social reform, he said, had been loudly demanded by the country; and social reform cannot be carried forward effectively without a large national expenditure. He expressed sympathy with those who desired to remit the tax on sugar, which forms so large a part in the people's food; but pointed out that, for the present, such remission was impossible.

The whole speech constituted an appeal, crafty and powerful, to the Labour force in the country. He would have the many units of that force understand that the Liberal Government was their friend. Being composed of merely human elements it might occasionally err. But never from the Opposition would the people obtain the sympathy and help that had been given to them by the Party in power.

It is not our intention to criticise the Budget, contrived by men who live on compromise, which appeals to men who are—alas!—only too easily hoodwinked. We would not indeed mention Mr. Asquith's speech at all, but for the fact that it contains a prophecy, curious enough, considering the source from which it came, to attract the attention even of voteless persons like ourselves.

When dealing with the question of increased expenditure on social reform, he said, in answer to Mr. Austen Chamberlain:—

"Whatever opinions he may have of the particular channels in which expenditure on social reform ought to flow, the demands for it will increase, and must increase as people become more acutely alive to the necessary and inevitable evil of a complex society, as the social conscience is more vividly aroused and as people get clearer views of what the State can and cannot do."

What is the prophecy? Expenditure on social reform is to increase, because something that Mr. Asquith calls a social conscience is awaking; and the presumption is that as it awakes more fully it will engender more widely. He prophesies further that with the new energy will come new wisdom. People moved by the social conscience will have clearer views as to the true functions of the State.

That is good, and we believe it to be true. There is such a thing as a social conscience, and there are many evidences that it is beginning to speak in language which not even the party politician can mistake.

Now "social conscience" like "people" is a very wide word. We need a little analysis. What is it, and from whom does it emanate? If we take the context of Mr. Asquith's speech, and if we remember his record, we shall probably come to the conclusion that while "people" means to him the male electorate so the "social conscience" which, it would appear, is moving towards what he calls social reform, is the prerogative of men. Therein also will be the clear vision whereby the true functions of the State can be perceived. Certainly he cannot include women in his generalisation, else he would be ready to concede to them the rights of citizenship which they are so urgently and strenuously demanding.

It would not be an exaggeration to say that these interpretations of what might appear to be perfectly clear facts constitute the basis of that unnatural and cruel strife between the sexes in the presence of which we stand to-day. Mr. Asquith has lately given audience to some East-End women. Did he find no social conscience there? He was moved; he gave his sympathy; he wished he could better their position. He knows very well that as things are he cannot. The situation is put tersely in the *Nation* of June 27th:—

"The average politician is conscious of a certain virtue when he turns aside on Friday afternoon . . . 'to do something' for those who have no direct claim upon his time and no control upon his votes. To the unrepresented he gives of his charity; for his electors he works."

How soon will the men of the country see that we are demanding not charity, but justice?

To return to Mr. Asquith's generalisations! We presume he uses the word "people" as it was used in the classic phrase which played so large a part in a recent election—"the will of the people shall prevail."

It ought to be unnecessary to point out that without woman there would be no people, and that the will of woman, forming, as she does, the larger and, considering her motherhood, the more important part of the community, should be consulted before laws are made and before the constitution under which she and her children have to live is changed.

The expression "social conscience" takes us still further. We have only to look round us to-day. We have only to look back into the past to see where the tenderest social conscience is found. Woman, again by reason of her motherhood, has higher intentions, has deeper compassion, has stronger imagination than man. For years upon years she has been struggling—pushed by conscience and compassion—with the hideous evils of this complex civilisation. The prison, the workhouse, the hospital, the infirmary, the battlefield, have borne witness to her restless energy, to her passionate abhorrence of injustice and oppression. Over and over again she has looked round for the help of her brothers, and too often her conscience—as human, as patriot, as world-lover—has been wounded. Take the Poor Law, for instance. Woman has fought and laboured there, and, at every point, where she desired to have justice served and compassion satisfied, she has found a man-made law opposing her.

Mr. Asquith has said or implied that the social conscience will grow more and more insistent as the years go by. We wish he would study the Woman's Movement, for then he might see the social conscience strongly working; then he might find an explanation of the strife between men and women which we believe he deeply deplures. For truly in women the social conscience is growing, and what she sees, what she hears, what she reads in the daily papers tends to fan the flame of sorrow

WOMEN AND DOMINION DAY.

Our readers will be interested to know of the fine stand made by a Canadian against the exclusion of women, not from work for the Dominion, but from the festival of Dominion Day. Our Canadian friend and suffragist, Miss Christian Richardson, gives the facts in the following letter to us:—

"May I have a few lines of your space to mention the action of the editor of *The Canadian News* in refusing an invitation to the Dominion Day dinner in London because 'I cannot take my wife, without whom I never go anywhere.' The explanation from the office of the Canadian High Commissioners was that 'it is a function for males only.' Mr. de Beck, the editor in question, replied as follows:—

"Such a function not only ought to be graced by the presence of women but ought never to be allowed to take place without their presence."

"To me," he declares, "it seems inconceivable that women should be excluded from any celebration in honour of any part of the Dominions of the British Empire. What would the Empire be without her women? Where would the Dominion of Canada be to-day, I would like to know? If it had not been for the women who, quite as much as the men, have helped her to her present great position? To me the whole question of Empire is so inseparably bound up with the cause of womanhood that I cannot conceive of their ever being separated. Dominion Day, or Empire Day, or any National or Imperial festival gain half their value and half their importance from the presence of women. To me such a festival being celebrated without women is like staging Hamlet without the gloomy Dane himself. I do trust that next year the Committee will have learned a little more chivalry, and will have realised that without women and their inspiring help and ever-ready sympathy neither Empire nor Canada would exist to-day. It is too bad to expect them to do a great half of the work and then in the hour of thanksgiving and rejoicing to tell them calmly that they can sit and wait at home and hear about it from sleepy husbands, who may, perhaps, have dined more well than wisely. And besides, it is bad policy. Suppose they turn round and say 'All right; if you can do without us at your dinner you can do without us altogether, and can run the Empire by yourselves for all we care!' and then, where should we be?"

"English as well as Canadian women will, I know, feel grateful to Mr. de Beck for his manly stand. It is news to Canadian women, or I imagine they would have declined long ere this the customary invitation to Canadian tourists to the reception following the dinner on the ground that if women are not worthy to celebrate the Dominion's birthday seated at dinner with the men, neither are they worthy to do it standing while they consume cake and coffee. With the Liberal Party of Ontario having votes for women as a plank in its platform for the coming election the position of the High Commissioners' office (of course, only from want of thought) is surely worse than a crime—a blunder."

WOMEN OF ALL THE AGES.

It was not only East and West, but Past, Present and Future, that met at the Costume Dinner and Pageant most successfully organised by the Women Writers' Suffrage League and the Actresses' Franchise League at the Hotel Cecil on June 29th. So brilliant, even bewildering, was the great company of distinguished people of all the ages from Sappho to the Futurists that Miss Cicely Hamilton's wit and wisdom in introducing each stately or dainty figure was most welcome in maintaining mental balance during the swift flight through the centuries.

Egypt led the way with Queen Ta-usert, B.C. 1200; then came Asia represented by Deborah (Mrs. Pethick Lawrence), Gulbadem Begum (Mrs. Flora Annie Steel), Chiyto, a Japanese poetess (Mrs. Kineton Parkes); the late Empress of China (Mrs. Archibald Little), and others; the Italian group included Leonora d'Este (Lady Muir Mackenzie), Catherine of Siena (Mrs. Craig McKerrow), Vittoria Colonna (Dr. Marie Stopes), Dr. Piscopia of Padua (Miss Abadam), and such distinguished men as Tasso, Savonarola, and Garibaldi, the latter strikingly personated by Mr. Nevinson. France was gorgeous and great with among others Joan of Arc (Olive Terry), Marie Antoinette (Janette Steer), Madame Roland (Edyth Olive), Charlotte Corday, Josephine, and George's Sand in man's dress, excellently represented by Miss Christopher St. John

and wrath that is rising in her soul. Therefore, let Mr. Asquith and his followers be sure of this: she will not rest until she stands beside her brother in the legal and administrative work through which our country, now so sad and disunited, returning to the ancient unity, may regain her high place in the Commonwealth of nations. C. DESPARD.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

WOMEN'S INTERESTS IN AUSTRALIA.

We thank Mrs. Smyth, of Melbourne, for sending us the following items of interesting news:—

A prominent Member of Parliament admitted at a recent public meeting that when it was proposed to give the women the vote he opposed it to the last ditch. Now he took back all he then said, and confessed that it was the greatest misake he had made in his life; but he did not then know the way women would take up their political work.

In a country town of Victoria a minister, preaching recently in a Presbyterian Church, said it was hypocrisy to say that home was the proper sphere for all women. Thousands of women had no home, and were never likely to have one. Women were in all professions to-day, and in fifty years time they would be in all Australian Parliaments, sitting side by side with men as law makers. He also stated that it would be a great advantage to the Church to recognise women preachers; he believed that politics and the State would be all the purer for woman's influence. If in power, women would not tolerate such conduct as is permitted at present in Parliament.

Now that women are admitted to Boards of Advice of the State Schools, affairs concerning the children generally are much more satisfactory in every way. Out of three doctors appointed by the Victorian Government (or perhaps I should say Government Educational Department) to look after the health of State schoolchildren, two are women who can be well trusted to fulfil their duty. Already the supervision is having good results. State schoolchildren are now being taught to swim—girls as well as boys. It is compulsory on all who are old enough.

In the Church of England Synod votes are now allowed to women, the right to vote for the election of lay members being granted by the State. In full Court there was much wordy warfare as to the legality of the decision, but in the end the Court was unanimous on the matter.

Two ladies—one from Scotland, the other a Melbourne lady—took part recently in the service in a Presbyterian Church. This was great innovation to be countenanced by a Presbyterian clergyman, and caused much comment.

A Presbyterian minister, when told that the vote for women had not done any good in Victoria replied that it had done great good, for no man of immoral character would get into Parliament—the women would see to that!

The extent to which women are taking up Pharmaceutical Chemistry is interesting. A few years ago there were only one or two women students; the number has now increased to 7 or 8 out of a total of 28. Woman's adaptability for this profession is shown by last year's prize list. In chemistry and botany there were four prizes to each section. Women students won all. In *materia medica* women won two out of four prizes offered. One student won all the firsts and the gold medal presented by the Council for the highest aggregate as well. Her average of 88 per cent. has only once been exceeded. That is seven women won eleven prizes between them, while twenty-one men only won two. I think this shows that pharmacy is essentially adapted for an occupation for women, as it requires attention to detail and exactness of execution, in both of which women excel. In the near future probably there will be more women than men in the profession.

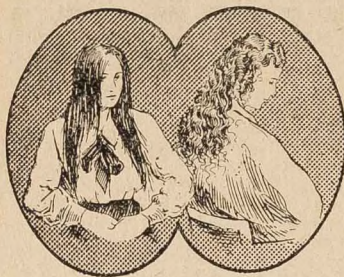
A New Zealand judge recognised his duty, and what is due to women, by recently sentencing a man to seven years' imprisonment (the maximum penalty) for assault on a girl. He said if this class of offence continued he would order floggings. Another man, for a similar offence, was sent to gaol for five years, and another for three years.

The Age favours Woman's cause by giving prominence to the lenient penalty imposed on a man who kicked his wife on the thigh, injuring her very seriously. She was an out-patient at the hospital for some time, and had to use crutches. He was only fined £5, in default one month's imprisonment.

In Melbourne we have police matrons, who attend to the women in police cells. This was only won after a hard fight by some of the women of the National Council of Women and others. It is certainly a step in the right direction.

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Isabella of Spain, Queen Louisa of Prussia, Hroswitha and St. Teresa were among other famous women of the past; Finland, as well as befitting, was represented by two women Members of Parliament; America by Harriet Beecher Stowe and Priscilla.

Then followed an imposing array of British women, led by Boadicea (Miss Decima Moore) and including Jane Austen (Miss May Sinclair), Elizabeth Fry (Mrs. Tooley), Charlotte Broute (Miss Winifred Mayo) and her sisters, Florence Nightingale (Miss Monck Mason), Grace Darling (Mrs. G. Gould), Mrs. Browning (Miss Evelyn Sharp), Flora MacDonald (Miss Anna Kinnison). That Mr. Pethick Lawrence, as John Stuart Mill, accompanied them was in accordance with the fitness of things; as also that Mrs. Montefiore, as the Suffragist who raised the banner of Votes for Women on the platform at Peterloo in 1819, and Miss Edith Craig, director of the pageant, as Mary Smith, who sent a petition to Parliament signed only by herself in 1832, should point the moral of woman's patience with man's slowness to do her justice. Mrs. Nevison, as the mother of the Futurists, prepared the way for the strange and wonderful Futurist man and woman of 2914 A.D. Signor Marinetti was expected to be present as Mrs. Nevison's guest, but was obliged to return to Italy last week.

It was evident that the centuries and the countries were on excellent terms with each other as, numbering more than three hundred, they dined together; also that Major-General Sir Alfred Turner and Sir Alfred Mond, M.P., in proposing and responding to the toast of the two Leagues, felt that it was an insult to womanhood that women who could organise such a demonstration and carry on such admirable work should be denied the vote. Mrs. Flora Annie Steel, President of the Women Writers' Suffrage League, emphasising Major-Gen. Turner's declaration that Mr. Asquith must realise the inevitable and speedy coming of the enfranchisement of women, said that instead of immediately punishing a naughty child she would now say to the nurse, "What have you done?" She appealed to men not to blame women for being in rebellion, but to say "What have we been doing?" and to see that the injustice to woman was removed. A concert followed the dinner. The Russian Balalaika Orchestra, conducted by Prince Tschagadaeff, delighted everyone; Miss Mary Law played violin solos; Mr. Peter Graham sang; and Mrs. Steel gave a reading about Gulbadem Begum. A memorable evening and another impressive success to the credit of the Woman Suffrage Movement. Sincerest thanks to all who worked and triumphed.

IN THE PARKS.

HYDE PARK.

At the Hyde Park Meeting last Sunday evening Mrs. Merivale Mayer dealt feelingly with the wrongs of the unmarried mother, the enormous audience listening with intense interest. The "irresponsibles" were in quite a subdued mood. Their chief effort only emphasising the fact that England is not a musical nation. Mrs. Merivale Mayer's continued pluck is beginning to tell on them.

REGENT'S PARK.

Mrs. Mustard and Miss Le Croisette had a very successful meeting last Sunday. A huge crowd assembled very quickly, and remained interested till nearly 2 p.m. Miss Le Croisette dealt with the position of Women Civil Servants, and Mrs. Mustard with Infant Mortality and Widows as Breadwinners. Both speakers had a long and sympathetic hearing, and were greatly applauded.

Too Good to Miss.—Miss Alix M. Clark, 11, Severn-street, Newtown, Montgomery Boroughs, is again making the famous mayonnaise sauce, the sale of which last year added substantially to the Birthday Fund for our President. This year Miss Clark hopes to realise £15 from its sale. Will members send orders to her direct, enclosing postal order 1s. for 9d. jar, post free?

DON'T "WAIT AND SEE," BUT GO AND SEE what Blouse bargains are to be found at the summer sale at Messrs. Hyam and Co., Oxford Street, W. Washing or tweed skirts, smart and well-tailored, are specially useful, and cost from 14s. 11d. to 16s. 11d. upwards. In Millinery the choice is most varied and the prices astoundingly moderate. Remember first come first served, and the sale is now going on!

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Already acknowledged, Jan. 1914 ...	170 0 5
Towards Mrs. Despard's Expenses:—	
Glasgow	10 0
Kilmarnock	5 0
	15 0
Donations:—	
Miss Eunice G. Murray	8 0 0
Miss Buntin	4 0 0
For Special Organiser:—	
Miss E. G. Murray... ..	15 0 0
Mr. Turnbull, Leith	10 0
Mr. Kinnaird, Leith	1 0
Miss Buntin	4 0 0
Mrs. Johnston, Edinburgh	1 0
	31 12 0
Returned Rail Fare:—	
Miss E. G. Murray	8 6
Miss Jack	11 0
Mr. Andrew Young	3 6
	1 3 0
For Miss Boyle's Tour:—	
Scattered members... ..	4 10 0
Dundee	10 0
Perth	1 3 0
Edinburgh	1 0 0
Returned Rail Fare, Miss Murray	9 0
Open-air meetings	2 7½
	7 14 7½
Collecting Cards:—Scottish Scattered Members. Per Miss Murray:—	
Miss Kathleen Stewart	10 0
Miss Scott	10 0
Miss Eunice Murray	10 0
Ditto	10 0
Ditto	10 0
Miss Sylvia Murray	10 0
Ditto	10 0
Mrs. Jane Fraser	6 2
Mrs. McIntyre	5 4
Mrs. Courage	6 0
Mrs. McInnes	6 0
Mrs. Kennedy	5 0
	5 8 6
Collecting Cards:—Glasgow Members:—	
Miss Morrison	8 6
Miss McHaffie	10 0
Miss White	10 0
Miss M. Brown	5 0
Miss Olga Gentle	5 0
Donation:—Miss Stirling	10 6
Miss J. E. Chalmers	3 6
Miss Eliz. S. Hamilton	5 6
Miss Buntin	10 0
Miss J. C. Smith	1 0
Miss McLeod	3 0
Miss McPhail	4 6
	3 16 6
For Birthday Fund:—	
Miss Eunice G. Murray	20 0 0
Edinburgh Branch	10 0 0
Edinburgh Members per Miss Wood:—	
Miss Wood (collected)	10 6
Mrs. Dr. Gibbs (donation)	10 0
Mrs. Paterson	10 0
Dundee Branch	5 0 0
	36 10 6
Total	£257 0 6½

The list will be completed next week.

ALEXIA B. JACK,
Hon. Treas.

PICKETING.

Picketing at the House of Lords still continues; the members find it a most interesting and enjoyable task, and have come forward splendidly to take their share, so that we have been able to arrange frequent changes of pickets. More volunteers are needed, however, for the more new faces seen at the Gats, the better.

Vote Brigade.

Last Saturday members of the Vote Brigade joined in a united campaign to sell papers which do not criticise militancy. THE VOTE was well represented and sold, and our thanks are gladly given to Mr. and Mrs. Robson Paige, who organised the demonstration, and who invited us to co-operate. Mrs. Robson Paige writes to thank our sellers who stood the tiring day so well. We are glad to hear that the campaign is to be repeated next year.

WANTED for next Friday afternoon, and for the following five Fridays, a Vote seller to take charge of a very good West End pitch, while the usual Seller is taking her holidays.
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THE VOTE, July, 1914.

COZENS' SUMMER SALE

is now proceeding. The bargains quoted here give some indication of the drastic price reductions in every department.

<p>Upholstery Crepe. Printed Cretonnes 10 designs. Dark styles. Regular price 8½d. Sale price 4¾d.</p> <p>Nottingham Lace Curtains. 3½ yards long. Dainty design in Ivory. Regular price 9/11. Sale Price 6/11</p> <p>Lace Bedspreads, in Ivory, well covered. Nice design. For Single Beds ... 6/11 For Double Beds 8/11.</p> <p>Heavy Linen Damask Dinner Napkins. Three designs. Serviceable and sightly. Per dozen regular price 12/11. Sale Price 8/11</p> <p>White Bath Towels, fringed red bordered. Large size 30 x 58 each. Regular price 1/4½. Sale Price 1/0½</p> <p>Embroidered Bedspreads, three designs 90 x 100 inches. Regular Price 16/11. Sale Price 12/11</p>	<p>Plain Robe Zephyrs with neat woven border. 48 inches wide. Regular price 1/3½d. Sale price 6¾d.</p> <p>Fashionable Printed Creponne, coloured grounds with white broche designs. 40 ins. wide. Regular price 9¾d. Sale Price 6¾d.</p> <p>Washing Cotton Crepe, with silk stripes. All fashionable shades. 40 inches wide. For Summer Dresses. Regular price 1/11½. Sale Price 1/0½</p> <p>Coloured Costume Linen, Yard wide. In shades of Butcher, Navy and Helio. Regular price 1/6½. Sale Price 1/0½</p> <p>Fashionable French Sponge Cloth, for Ladies' Costumes. Art shades. 40 inches wide. Regular Price 2/6½. Sale Price 1/11½</p>
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LONDON & SUBURBS.—Croydon.

FLOWER DAY, JUNE 4.—Members who can spare even a short time to sell flowers should be at 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, as early on Saturday morning as possible. Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc., will give her lecture on "The Evolution of Marriage" on July 10 at our local office, instead of the date previously announced. All will wish Miss Becher a good time on the caravan, which she is joining on July 2. At our fortnightly meeting on July 26 Miss Underwood very kindly gave an address in place of Mrs. Baillie, who was away from home. The subject, "The Independence of Women" was well considered from various points of view and led to an interesting discussion. Miss Stallard presided, and Miss Becher acted as hostess for Mrs. Wilkinson.

A SUGGESTION.—If all members who are making strawberry jam will give a few pounds to the merchandise department a good amount may be added to the Funds. Those who do not make jam will gladly buy it. One member has already promised 6 lbs.

East London.

The Branch held a very successful picnic in Epping Forest on Sunday, June 21st. Notwithstanding an uncompromisingly wet morning, twenty-four courageous people presented themselves at the rendez-vous, and, the weather changing for the better, were able to enjoy the proposed forest ramble under the able leadership of Mr. Bennett, and to complete the programme with tea under the beeches and a sunset walk to the station. On the following day (Monday) members assembled at Miss Adams' flat to hear Mrs. Mustard speak about picketing. Five volunteers were enrolled. On Friday at a successful out-door Miss Smith, Mr. Ashley and Miss Isaac spoke to an attentive and orderly crowd. Will members please send their contributions for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund to the Secretary by July 6th at the latest?

Kensington.

In North Kensington on June 22 we found our pitch taken, and another suffrage meeting being held in the next street. Despite these odds against us, we soon had a grand crowd, the Rev. W. J. Pigott's fearless manner and straightforward speech, convincing even our chief antagonist, who was very soon leading the frequent applause. Our friends in the audience delight in giving away the "Anti," and we soon found out who's who! As we were leaving, a youth stood muttering dire threats against us. We were told it was a sore point with him, as he had just done seven days for interfering with the National Union.

Stamford Hill & Tottenham.

We were glad to see so many members and friends at our open-air Meeting on June 23, when Miss Rushbrook very kindly spoke for us. We urge all members most earnestly to continue to support us as strongly every Tuesday. It is so much more encouraging to our speakers, and it is by our members that outsiders judge of the strength of our movement. On Tuesday, July 7, we shall have the pleasure of hearing Miss Murray in Tottenham. Miss Boyle, on July 21, also on July 14 at Stamford Hill. Vote sellers are wanted, and everyone should wear the W.F.L. badge.

Tufnell Park.

An open-air meeting has been fixed for Monday, July 6th, at Pemberton Gardens, near to St. John's Church, Upper Holloway, at 8 p.m. Upper Holloway Station on the Midland Railway is close by, and trams and buses from Highgate and Islington pass the Church. Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray.

PROVINCES—Ipswich.

On June 25th Miss Bobby gave an interesting paper on "Life in a Scottish Village," which evoked a good discussion on Scotch and the Celtic manners and customs; kindly hospitality and strong devotion to principle being emphasised. Miss Underwood's letter re the arrest of Dr. Knight, which had been printed in the local paper, was read and discussed.

Portsmouth & Gosport.

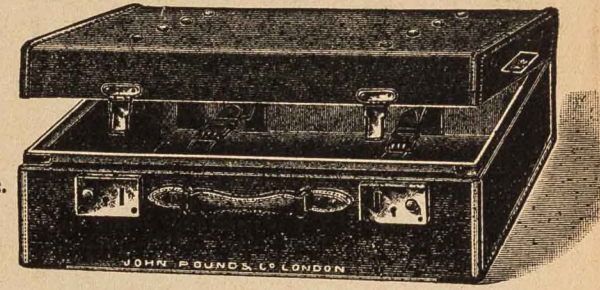
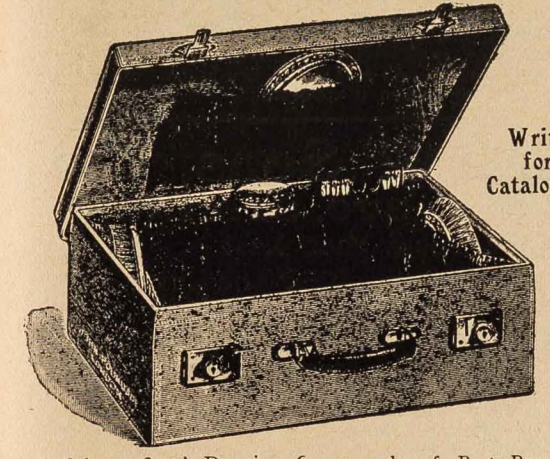
Many thanks to Mrs. Speck for entertaining the work party on June 24. Mrs. Bremner has kindly invited us to 35, Pelham Road, on Wednesday, June 8, at 3 p.m. It was decided at our last members' meeting to send £10 to the Birthday Fund. Will members who have collecting cards please return them to Mrs. Tremain, 49, Whitworth Road, Gosport?

Southampton.

On the Common last Sunday evening a large and most attentive crowd gathered round the W.F.L. trolley, and

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showed keen appreciation and sympathy. Miss Trott made a most logical plea for the Cause, and Mrs. Leigh Rothwell spoke strongly on the apathy and hostility of audiences. Dr. Stancomb, in his genial way, urged men to give mothers the freedom of which they boasted. THE VOTE sold well, and the meeting was an unqualified success. The Branch badly needs more funds to enable it to hold more meetings. In spite of determined efforts by bean-feasters to break up our meeting in the Market Square, Botley, on Saturday night, Miss Trott and Mrs. Leigh Rothwell succeeded in holding a meeting for nearly two hours. The seed sown in this hard new ground will bear fruit. Members from Eastleigh and Hedge End helped in selling THE VOTE, etc.

Scofield—Clydebank.

At an evening meeting on June 25th at Dumbarton, Miss Eunice Murray spoke for nearly two hours to a large and interested audience. Miss Barrs presided. With the help of some members of the I.L.P. THE VOTE and other Suffrage literature sold well, and a good collection was taken. Miss Shennan and Miss Barrs held a splendid meeting at Whiteinch on Friday evening. The crowd remained solid for nearly two hours in spite of aeroplanes looping the loop and flying almost overhead. Working women, with children in their arms, remarked: "It's perfectly true every word she says." A man's comment was: "Splendid; I never heard anything like it in my life!" Miss Barr spoke to the employees at Singer's during the dinner-hour on Friday on the economic aspect of the Women's Movement, and received a good hearing. On Saturday evening Miss Eunice Murray again visited Clydebank and a record crowd gathered round the Freedom League platform. Miss Barrs presided. Thanks to the help given by several members of the Paisley Branch and Mr. Grant, from Glasgow, all copies of THE VOTE were sold, and also much literature and many badges. The speakers had a splendid hearing, and many invitations to "Come Again!"

Edinburgh.

Miss Bessie Semple, Glasgow, gave a splendid address to a large crowd at the West End of Princes Street on Friday evening. Mrs. Burnett, at her first appearance as an open-air speaker on this occasion, made an excellent opening speech. So greatly were Miss Semple's remarks appreciated that the offer of an elderly gentleman, evidently a visitor in the town, to buy a dozen copies of THE VOTE if anyone present could give a single good reason why we should not have the vote, had perforce to remain

unaccepted. THE VOTE, nevertheless, enjoyed a good sale, and we hope to have the pleasure of hearing Miss Semple again at an early date. A sale of flowers in aid of the Birthday Fund will be held in the Shop on Saturday, July 4th. Contributions and helpers are both urgently

Glasgow.

The shop at 70, St. George's-road will remain closed during the month of July. Members or sympathisers who have not yet received circulars for the sale of work, and any who require a further supply, are requested to call as soon as possible after re-opening on August 1st.

LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL.

Mrs. Fisher will be glad to receive the names of any members who will help at the Jumble Sale at Tolmer's Square Institute, Hampstead Road, on Saturday, July 18th. There cannot be too many helpers at a Jumble Sale. Contributions are also wanted. Articles of any kind are welcome—clothing, furniture, linoleum and pieces of carpet, utensils, etc. Will members please ask friends for parcels? They may be sent now to Mrs. Fisher at 1, Robert Street, Adelphi. E. CLAYTON.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

WOMEN TEACHERS' FRANCHISE UNION.

Hon. Sec.—Miss H. M. Townsend, 27, Murillo Road, Lee, S.E.

The second Annual Meeting of the Women Teachers' Franchise Union was held at the Essex Hall, on Monday, June 22. Three years ago, when the Union was formed, its foes generously gave it eighteen months in which to die; but it is still alive and increasing in numbers.

The President, Miss Agnes Dawson, took the chair, and at the conclusion of the routine business declared the officers and committee re-elected without a contest. She said this might be regarded as a compliment, but the committee did not feel that it was a satisfactory state of affairs. The Secretary's full report of the year's work of the Union was adopted and also the audited financial statement of the Treasurer. Miss Roper, B.A., Secretary of the National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, and Miss Eva Gore-Booth then addressed the meeting on the Economic Aspect of Woman Suffrage, dealing chiefly with equal pay and the position of the married woman. They emphasised the necessity for solidarity among women of every industry and profession. The remarks of the wrongly called "Majority" report of the Civil Service Commission strike at all women, not only those in the Civil Service.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Monday, July 6.—UPPER HOLLOWAY, Pemberton Gardens (near St. John's Church), 8 p.m. Miss Eunice Murray. KENSINGTON (corner Portobello Road and Lancaster Road), 8 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle.

Tuesday, July 7.—BROMLEY. "BRACKENHILL," HIGHLAND ROAD. MRS. DESPARD "AT HOME" TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS. 3.30 p.m. TOTTENHAM (outside Gas Offices, High Road). Open-air meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Eunice Murray.

Wednesday, July 8.—HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch), 3.30. Open-air meeting. Speakers: Miss Eunice Murray and others. CHELSEA, Glebe Studios, 55, Glebe Place. Whist Drive, 8 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each, inclusive. CLAPHAM COMMON, Open-air meeting, 6.30 p.m. Miss Eunice Murray.

Thursday, July 9.—HIGHBURY CORNER. Open-air meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard. W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert Street, Speakers' class, 7 p.m. ADDISCOMBE, "The Blackhorse," 8 p.m.

Friday, July 10.—CROYDON, W.F.L. Office, 32a, The Arcade, 3.30 p.m. Public meeting. Mrs. Baillie, B.Sc.

Sunday, July 12.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Nina Boyle. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Mrs. Mustard. HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch), 6.45 p.m.

Monday, July 13.—KENSINGTON (corner Portobello Road and Lancaster Road), 8 p.m.

Tuesday, July 14.—STAMFORD HILL (corner Amhurst Park Road, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss C. Nina Boyle.

Wednesday, July 15.—HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch). Open-air meeting, 3.30.

Thursday, July 16.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. Miss Rushbrooke. W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert Street. Speakers' class, 7 p.m.

Sunday, July 19.—REGENT'S PARK, noon. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle. HYDE PARK, 6.45 p.m.

Monday, July 20.—KENSINGTON (corner Portobello Road and Lancaster Road), 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard.

Tuesday, July 21.—TOTTENHAM, High Road (outside Gas Offices), 8 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle.

Wednesday, July 22.—HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch). Open-air meeting, 3.30 p.m.

PROVINCES.

Friday, July 3 to Friday, July 10.—CARAVAN CAMPAIGN. Meetings daily in Peterborough and district. Miss Goddard, Miss Barrs, Miss Becher and others.

Friday, July 3.—GRAYS. Open-air meeting. Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray.

Monday, July 6.—MIDDLESBOROUGH. Open-air meeting. Speaker: Rev. A. Scruton.

Wednesday, July 8.—SOUTHSEA (35 Pelham Road). Work Party, 3 p.m. Hostess: Mrs. Bremner.

Monday, July 13.—MIDDLESBOROUGH. Open-air Meeting. Speaker: Rev. T. C. Gobat.

SCOTLAND.

Clyde Campaign during July and August.—Headquarters, Rotheray. Open-air meetings daily, 3 and 8 p.m.

OTHER SOCIETIES—continued.

Women's Suffrage Union.

The following cablegram has been received by the Hon. Secretary from a Conference of Women's Societies, political and otherwise, of West Australia, held annually at Perth under the auspices of The Women's Service Guild of Western Australia, and which represents every shade of opinion:

"This Conference of women belonging to the Empire places on record the abhorrence felt to such methods of repression as the Cat and Mouse Act and forcible feeding, which are being used against their fellow-women in England struggling for the franchise. As women of the Empire, we ask the Imperial Government to end the agitation by granting franchise to women on the same terms as British men have is, or may have in the future."

The cablegram has been taken in person to the Home Secretary by a member of the Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association.

Our readers will be interested to learn that an all sickness and accidental policy for professional and business women is about to be issued. Hitherto the companies have fought shy of issuing a policy of this description, on the ground that the claims arising from women would be so many that they would swamp the premiums. The best policy for women on the market up till now has covered only accidents and certain specified diseases, but as many women workers have expressed their dissatisfaction at the inadequate cover against times of illness, the matter has been put before some underwriters at Lloyds, with the result that a policy has been formulated which should fully satisfy their requirements and meet a great demand. It is impossible to foretell whether the experiment will prove a commercial success until it has been in force for a year or two, but it is felt that a step in advance has been made, as far as insurance for women is concerned.

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Smart Walking Shoe in blk. glaze Kid, 14/6 patent. 18/6

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Silkstone .. 25/6	Best Nuts .. 23/6	Stove Coal .. 19/6
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Special House .. 14/-	Large Kitchen .. 21/6	
	Coke .. 18/- per Chaldron.	

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SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE will hold an Open-air Meeting in Hyde Park (near Marble Arch), Wednesday, July 8th, at 8.30. Speakers: Miss Eunice Murray and others.

LITERARY.

PLAYS, DUOLOGUES, MONOLOGUES, dealing with all phases of the Woman's Movement, 3d and 6d For Drawing-rooms, Platforms, or Stage purposes. Descriptive List (2d.) post free on application.—ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi.

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Miscellaneous Advertisements.

For insertion in the next week's issue, copy must be sent in by Monday morning to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

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Change of Air	First 15 words, 1s.
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Boarding Houses and Pensions	Four consecutive insertions, for the price of three if prepaid
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"IF IT WERE TRUE." Explaining Spiritual Meaning of Women's Militancy. Obtainable, 7s. 6d per 1,000, 10d. per 100 leaflets, from M.W.V.S., 26, Grand Parade, Brighton.

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