

VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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A PATRIOT

MR. ASQUITH'S EASTER EGG.

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would follow and "authority would be vindicated." If they were many the authorities would not dare to expose the full strength of the opposition, and would take refuge in words of disparagement. As Census night drew near, and the number of evaders increased, we felt quite certain that the latter course would be the one which would commend itself to the Government, and the event justified our forecast.

"Mercy and Magnanimity."

We do not suppose that many people will be taken in by the declamations of Mr. John Burns about mercy and magnanimity; certainly no one who has come within measurable distance of the clutches of the Government. Our own experience proves conclusively that when those who protest are weak in numbers and in social prestige mercy and magnanimity are conspicuous by their absence; as their numbers increase and their social position becomes recognised the outlook changes until at last a totally new attitude is adopted by the powers that be.

A Case in Point.

In the early days of this movement when the Government thought they had only working women to deal with they had them put into the third division in prison and treated as ordinary criminals. But when Mrs. Cobden Sanderson formed one of a deputation, the Home Secretary interfered to have the prisoners put into the first division. Again, when deputations consisted of a handful of women only they were arrested and sent to prison, sometimes for three whole months, simply for the technical crime of obstructing the police; but because the numbers of the later deputations have

run into three figures not a woman whose offence was merely obstruction has been sent to prison since April, 1909.

The Moral.

The moral of it all is that victory lies near at hand. It may be that the Government have at last realised the great and growing power of the army of Suffragettes. But if they have not yet done so it will only need one more deputation far more numerous and determined than any that have gone before to demonstrate to them the futility of further resistance to the just and reasonable demand which the women are making for their political rights.

Mr. Hugh Franklin.

On Friday evening last Mr. Hugh Franklin was released from Pentonville Prison. He is still in a very weak condition, after the terrible ordeal which he has gone through; but he has already made considerable progress towards recovery, and he hopes that by the beginning of May he may be able to resume work. In the meanwhile, he is being carefully tended by friends. On page 455 of this issue we give an account of some of his experiences in Pentonville, and of the impressions which he formed of the serious condition of our prison system. He rightly urges the need of women's influence to bring a more healthy atmosphere into this plague spot of our civilisation.

Mr. Churchill's Meeting.

The members of the Men's Political Union were present in large numbers at Mr. Churchill's meeting on Friday in last week at the Queen's Hall to remind him of the dishonourable methods with which the Government have attempted to meet the Woman's

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom; to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it; to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK.

We wish all our readers a very pleasant Easter holiday. May they come back thoroughly refreshed and ready for what we hope and believe will be the final struggle for securing to women the Parliamentary vote.

The Census Victory.

They will be all the more heartened to this work by the great victory which we chronicled last week over the Census. We realised from the beginning that, whether the authorities would decide to prosecute or not would depend upon the numbers who took part in the protest. If the numbers were few prosecutions

movement. Their wholly relevant interpolations were answered in the illegal way which Liberal stewards invariably adopt. They were assaulted and flung with great violence out of the meeting. We understand that the M.P.U. are considering the advisability of proceeding against the offending parties. In the meantime we learn that the Bradford League of Young Liberals has appealed against the judgment in the Hawkins case.

At the Queen's Hall.

An enthusiastic meeting was held by the Women's Social and Political Union on Monday in the Queen's Hall, when Mr. Laurence Housman, to whom Suffragettes owe so much in connection with the Census protest, made a spirited speech, which was listened to with rapt attention. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence evoked great enthusiasm by her account of the victory gained on Census night, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst illustrated the present political situation. We regret that owing to lack of space we are unable to give Mr. Housman's speech at any length this week, but we hope to be able to make up for this deficiency by a full report in our next issue.

Favourable Resolutions in Town Councils.

Our readers will learn with great pleasure that Birmingham, the stronghold of Liberal Unionist opinion, is sound on the Conciliation Bill. On Tuesday afternoon a resolution in support of the measure was carried in the Council by 31 votes to 15. The City Council of Leeds has also adopted a resolution praying the Government to give facilities to the Bill. Similar resolutions have been carried during the week by the Councils in the following important centres—Derby, Folkestone, Macclesfield, Oldham, and Ramsgate. We do not envy the opponents of Woman Suffrage who still cling to the belief that the country is not ripe for this reform.

Contents of this Issue.

In view of the Annual Conference of Women Teachers, which takes place during the Easter holiday at Aberystwith, and the Woman Suffrage resolution which will be moved there, special interest attaches to the article by Miss Adela Pankhurst which we print in an adjoining column, setting out the need which the nation has for the presence of women teachers among the electorate. Nothing shows more clearly the urgency of Woman Suffrage than the facts which she brings forward to illustrate the carelessness of the present male electorate towards the terrible problems of child disease which abound in all the populations of our large cities. We print on page 461 extracts from the convincing speech which the Rev. T. Rhondda Williams delivered recently at the Queen's Hall. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence reviews Mr. Cecil Chapman's interesting book "Marriage and Divorce," Miss Vaughan gives a description of Joan of Arc as played at the Coliseum, while Miss Christabel Pankhurst exposes the fallacies which underlie the opposition to militant methods. Next week we hope to print an article from the pen of Lady Robert Cecil.

Items of Interest.

The women of Zurich Canton, Switzerland, have been granted the privilege of equal suffrage with the men in the "Gewerbliche Schiedsgerichte" (Boards of Trade). The women of Milwaukee (Wisconsin) exercised for the first time last week the school-board franchise. The Senate of Illinois have passed by 31 to 10 a Woman Suffrage Bill, providing that in any city or township where it is adopted by a referendum women shall be entitled to vote for all offices except the police magistrate and justices of the peace.

It is significant that the Danish Minister in Washington has been investigating the working of Woman Suffrage in Colorado. It is stated that Denmark is shortly going to enfranchise its women.

The Russian Duma has been discussing a Bill conferring rural district franchise on women.

THE DEPUTATION.

Many more names have been received for the deputation during the past week. One Scottish member writes:—"I am very glad to offer myself as a member of your next deputation in the event of the Bill not being granted facilities. I could not offer before, as my baby was so very little but she is now 18 months, and can safely be left with a nurse should I have to go to prison." Another member, living in Surrey, writes:—"Owing to the way in which the last deputation was treated, I shall take part in the next one, if I can possibly manage it." These two letters are typical of a great number of others. An appeal is made to all who have not yet volunteered for active service to do so at the earliest possible moment, as this will greatly simplify the making of the necessary arrangements.

C. H. P.

THE PROCESSION OF 1911.

The Easter holiday this year will be a short one, and at the end of next week the thoughts and energies of all the members of the Union will at once be concentrated on the organisation of the great Imperial and International Procession which is to take place on the Saturday before Coronation Day, June 17.

Already the preliminary plans are laid. The pageant side of the demonstration has been placed in the very able hands of Miss Downing and Miss Wallace Dunlop, two artists who have established a reputation for brilliant success many times over during the past few years of this Movement's history. They have also most kindly consented to act as advisers to all the local unions and provincial organisations of the W.S.P.U. They have delightful suggestions to make, and have already thought out some beautiful designs for banners. Local organisers and secretaries are urged to put themselves in touch with them without delay with regard to the decorative arrangement of their respective contingents, and should write at once to them at their offices at 12, Smith Street, King's Road, Chelsea (five minutes' walk from Sloane Square Station).

The moment that Easter is over the Union will have need of the active services of hundreds of women to carry out the work of organising groups in every part of London, for it is from London that the main body of processionists will have to be drawn. Offers of time and of service will be greatly appreciated at headquarters, and all who can help are asked to place themselves in communication with Miss Jessie Kenney, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

Those who have never done any work before, those who are not even members of the Union, though they are interested in the question, will be able to help, especially by offering themselves to take part in the pageants, which will absorb several hundreds of women. If they could see the beautiful dresses that are being designed by the artists, they would be eager to do so, even if there were no such great purpose to be served as there is on this occasion.

The Procession will march from the Embankment to the Albert Hall, and all who mean to take tickets for that meeting should apply at once, as the seats are selling out with extraordinary rapidity. Some of the delegates to the Imperial Conference will speak at the meeting, arrangements of which will be more fully announced in later issues. Applications for tickets must be made to the Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Offices at 4, Clements Inn are closed from Mid-day on Thursday to Tuesday Morning.

Friday, May 5, will be a memorable date in the history of the woman's movement. On that day the Women's Bill, now before the House, will be read a second time, and it will then be known what the intentions of the Government are with regard to its further stages. A most important meeting has been arranged to take place in the Town Hall, Kensington, on that day (Friday evening, May 5), at 8 p.m., when Mrs. Pankhurst will be in the chair. Tickets—stalls, 2s. 6d.; area, 1s.; gallery, 1s. (all numbered and reserved); back area (unreserved), 6d.—can now be had from Miss Cooke, ticket secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., and from the local union.

London Free Meetings.

The London weekly meetings will be resumed at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, W., on Monday, April 24, at 3 p.m. One of the speakers on this date will be the Hon. Malcolm M. Macnaghten, M.A., the well-known barrister. On the four following Mondays, May 1, 8, 15, and 22, these meetings will be held in the London Pavilion, Piccadilly Circus. The Thursday evening meetings at the Steinway Hall will recommence on Thursday, April 27, at 8 p.m.

Important Meeting at Caxton Hall.

The Men's Political Union will hold a public meeting at Caxton Hall on Monday, May 15, when Miss Vida Goldstein, Mr. Hugh A. Franklin, and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Mathew will speak; Mr. Cameron Swan in the chair. Reserved seats (1s. and 6d.) may now be booked. As this will be Mr. Franklin's first appearance in public since his release from Pentonville Prison on Friday, April 7, it is hoped that members will make the meeting widely known and secure tickets for their friends. Application should be made to the M.P.U. offices, 13, Buckingham Street, Strand.

Festival of Empire.

Owing to the large number of visitors expected in London during the summer months, many of whom will visit the Festival of Empire, at the Crystal Palace, arrangements have been made by the W.S.P.U. to have a special kiosk (between the main stand and the Australian building), where literature and colours will be sold.

The Woman's Press, 156, Charing Cross Road, W.C.

Our readers will be glad to know that Lord Selborne's speech on Woman Suffrage, extracted from which appeared in VOTES FOR WOMEN on March 17, is now ready in pamphlet form, entitled, "The Earl of Selborne on Woman Suffrage." Price 1d. The shop will be closed from Thursday mid-day, until Tuesday, April 18, with the exception of Saturday, when it opens for a couple of hours in the morning.

June 17.

An important paragraph on the Procession appears above. Tickets for the Great Demonstration at the Albert Hall, on Saturday, June 17, can be obtained from Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. Prices: Amphitheatre Stalls, 2s. 6d.; Area, 1s.; Upper Orchestra and Balcony, 6d.; Boxes, £1 10s., £1 1s., and 12s. 6d., all numbered and reserved. Members are reminded to book early.

WOMEN TEACHERS AND THE VOTE.

By Adela Pankhurst.

At the annual conference of teachers, which is being held during Easter week at Aberystwith, the following resolution will be moved on behalf of the Executive:—

"That this Conference expresses its sympathy with those members of the National Union of Teachers who desire to possess and exercise the Parliamentary franchise, but—because they are women and for that reason alone—are by law debarred from it.

In dealing with the question of obtaining the vote for women teachers there is no need for me to touch upon the importance of the protection which the vote will afford to the teachers themselves as employees of the Government. The questions of equal pay for equal work and superannuation have been frequently dealt with in your columns. I prefer to turn to the other side of the matter, the great need which the nation has for the enfranchisement of its women teachers.

The only education question with which the politicians have concerned themselves has been the religious education of the children, and the rights of religious bodies to the public funds for the teaching of their own creeds; and the voters have been asked to choose their representatives at election time according to their views on that part of the subject only.

There is no body of men voters who are interested in children in the same way that a body of women voters would be, or that would be prepared to approach Ministers of Education, leaders of political parties, or particular members, to obtain their assistance in securing reforms in education.

How necessary these reforms are every thoughtful person recognises. Medical inspection of children unfit, through startlingly high percentage of education provided for them, physical defects, to receive the education provided for them. In the poor schools of Edinburgh this percentage is as high as 70; in London the schools' medical officers report 25 per cent. of the children anemic, 8 per cent. as having heart disease, 45 per cent. suffering from diseases of the nose and throat, 66 per cent. have defective vision. The Sheffield schools show that only 21.9 of the elementary school children are well nourished; that 35 per cent. of the children in poor districts have dirty clothes, and that of the girls in the elementary schools of the whole city, 65 per cent. have unclean hair and 40 per cent. of all the children have insufficient clothing.

The body of educated and disastrous wastage of child life is the women teachers, and they see not only the children, but the mothers and the homes of these children. Theirs is, therefore, an expert opinion, and the loss of it is a very serious one to the nation.

Every social question—and much is talked by all political parties about social legislation—could well be referred to women teachers for advice, since they are so intimately connected with working women and children, but some legislative proposals almost directly concern their work. For instance, the experiment in open-air schools for delicate children is a question that demands women's special knowledge and sympathy.

An agitation to raise the age at which children can enter school claims public attention from time to time, and theoretical gentlemen make sentimental speeches about homes and the influence of mothers. They know nothing of the over-crowded homes, the over-worked mothers with neither time nor knowledge to train their children. It is the teachers who realise how the school saves such children from the material and moral filth of the streets, and teaches them habits of discipline and self-control. The teaching of domestic economy to girls or the lack of such teaching, is well understood also by the women teachers. Their knowledge of the children's homes and their mothers makes them intensely conscious of the need of it, and their experience of condition in the schools, for example, the size of the classes, the age and capacity of the girls, the pressure of other work, makes them the best judges of what form this teaching should take.

Some of the prisoners said to me, "I wish more of you would come in, they treat us a lot better since you Suffragists have been in here," meaning not so much the regulations as that the presence of even five Suffragists in Pentonville had inspired the warders with more sympathetic kindness towards their prisoners. On those grounds alone I am glad to have been in prison.

Never has coin of the realm represented more devotion and heroism than a guinea sent to me last week with the following lines:—

I enclose P.O. for £1 1s. 0d. "Gas fee saved" does not mean that I have denied myself light or warmth, but only a dentist's fee for gas. When the Self-Denial card came, I was wondering how I could get some money for it as I am not rich and there is very little I can deny myself when my eye fell upon a letter I had just written to my dentist to arrange for the extraction of three teeth with gas. I decided I would do it, and I am very glad to have saved the £1 1s. 0d. for the cause.

During the past few days I have received two or three cheques of £5 representing the Census fine which resisters have incurred. Since Mr. John Burns does not want our fines, the offers of our Treasury are to be richer. I commend this example to the members of the Union, many of whom wrote to me that they were not able to give as much as usual this year as they had to reserve £5 for the penalty of Census resistance.

Let us show the President of the Local Government Board how much cause we have to bless him for his "mercy and magnanimity in the hour of [our] success."

E. P. L.

MY MONTH IN PRISON.

By Hugh Franklin.

On my arrival at Pentonville I found the Governor—either by accident or design—wandering about the reception buildings. I accordingly asked him at once that I might, as a political prisoner, be given the advantage of the new regulations. He informed me I must wait until he received instructions, and in the meantime I could keep my own clothes, but that otherwise I should be subject to ordinary prison discipline.

In consequence I refused to eat the prison food, and throughout the whole of my imprisonment nothing passed my lips except the feeding tube. I also refused to clean my cell next morning. A few hours later a reply came to my formal application for the special treatment. I was told that I was refused on the ground of a previous conviction.

I at once sent a petition to Mr. Churchill, in the course of which I pointed out that of the 76 women in Holloway last November (all of whom were allowed the new regulations) very many had previous convictions. I also pointed out that the reason of the protest which led to my imprisonment was the difference in the treatment meted out to me last November and that which Mr. Abbey was receiving. I repeated my claim that both Mr. Abbey and myself ought not to be treated as ordinary criminals when our offences did not imply moral turpitude.

Twelve days later I received a reply stating that the Home Secretary could not listen to my petition, as my offence was not included in the list of special offences. He did not say why. He did not remember that the women actually smashed windows, and that I was unconvicted (bound over) for missing a window, nor did he mention again that previous conviction!

"The Wrong Clothes."

When I was informed of the first refusal, I was taken back to the reception-room, made to change my clothes, and put back in my cell. The next morning I refused to get up, because, as I told them, they had given me the wrong clothes, and I did not intend to wear other people's. After a visit from the Governor three warders entered my cell, and succeeded in dressing me. I lay down again on my bed until the Governor ordered its removal, and I then made a rough couch out of a stool and some mailbags.

Half an hour later—after two days' hunger strike—I was taken to the hospital and forcibly fed through the mouth. This was repeated twice a day for 28 days, the food being a mixture chiefly composed of warm milk and eggs, and, of course, it did little to allay my hunger and thirst, and I found it very hard to sleep or concentrate on my book when suffering from this lack of food. All the month I refused to clean my cell, or to get up till eight o'clock instead of 5.30. A prisoner cleaned my cell.

Once when I was led up the stairs, and approaching the doctor's room, I was suddenly pushed down again; warders rushed to get in my way, and another hastily closed the door of the room, but alas! not before I had managed to catch a glimpse of Mr. Abbey sitting in the chair! They were afraid we might see each other, and although his cell was just over mine, that was all I saw of my friend. In fact, so careful were they that until he was released I was not allowed to exercise with the hospital prisoners in the afternoon as I should in that case have met him. They wanted me to go out with the ordinary prisoners in the morning, and because I refused to comply with this breach of the rules, during the first 12 days I had 24 hours' solitary confinement per day without work—the other quarter being devoted to forcible feeding.

The doctors and warders constantly urged me to give it up, saying I had had enough, and I was ruining my health. They seemed to forget that it was they who were feeding me in this disgusting way; moreover, I informed them and the Governor I could no more turn back—having under taken the duty of protesting—than a soldier in battle can retire merely because the enemy offer some resistance.

Prison Conditions.

Some of the prisoners said to me, "I wish more of you would come in, they treat us a lot better since you Suffragists have been in here," meaning not so much the regulations as that the presence of even five Suffragists in Pentonville had inspired the warders with more sympathetic kindness towards their prisoners. On those grounds alone I am glad to have been in prison.

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Let us show the President of the Local Government Board how much cause we have to bless him for his "mercy and magnanimity in the hour of [our] success."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £100,000 FUND.

March 25 to March 27.

Table listing names and amounts contributed to the £100,000 fund. Includes names like Mrs. M. J. M. M., Miss G. G., etc., and amounts in pounds and shillings.

Cheques should be made out to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and crossed, "Barclay and Co."

Census Night

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MARRIAGE AND DIVORCE.*

The appointment of a Royal Commission to consider the whole question of divorce is an index of widespread feeling in the nation that the laws regulating the institution of marriage are not properly adjusted to the present instincts and conscience of the people. It is this fact that has induced Mr. Cecil Chapman, as he himself explains, to write his book on "Marriage and Divorce." His criticism of the present laws which regulate divorce is based upon a long experience as Metropolitan Magistrate of their effect upon the lives of men and women. Throughout the treatise, from a historical, sociological and legal point of view so lucid and interesting, there is ample evidence of a special gift of discernment of the human heart which implies the highest wisdom.

Mr. Cecil Chapman believes divorce to be "not an evil in itself but an index of evils, which it is calculated to remove." So far from the increased tendency to seek divorce proving growth of immorality, he maintains that it is due "to a living aspiration after a higher standard both of morality and happiness in marriage." He illustrates the present degraded view of marriage prevalent amongst certain classes of men by quoting a few typical cases out of the many that have come directly under his notice as a magistrate. The following story shows the position of the wife as a man's indentured and unpaid servant:—

A widower, who had come before me for some difficulty of his having engaged a housekeeper at five shillings a week, married her within a month because, as he said, "I'm no fool. I lost five shillings a week over her as a housekeeper, but as a wife I don't have to give her anything."
The physical, mental and moral agony endured daily by thousands of wretched wives is due to the low standard of the ideal of marriage which prevails amongst large classes of the community. And this low ideal is the effect of the present unequal marriage laws which are so degrading to women. Mr. Chapman's criticism is not only destructive. It is mainly constructive, and amongst the most interesting pages are those which advocate certain remedial measures.

The marriageable age of young men should be raised from fourteen to twenty, and that of young women from twelve to eighteen; in Germany the ages are twenty-one and eighteen respectively; and the age should always be proved by a certificate of birth or its equivalent.
The consent of both parents (if living) should be required personally, or in writing, for both parties up to the age of twenty-one.

A certificate of health must be required showing fitness for marriage to the extent, at least, of the absence of any dangerous or contagious disease.
Some provision for the maintenance of the wife during marriage should be made by contract or settlement, which should be her separate property in the same way as her earnings now are.
To ensure morality in marriage, and proper respect for its conditions, each of the parties must be armed with power of revision or rescission of the contract on equal terms.
Testamentary rights should be so restricted that neither parent should be allowed to deprive the other of a fair portion of their estate after death.
The maintenance of a wife and children, made compulsory by law, should be according to the means and position of the father instead of mere subsistence as it is at present.
The hasty laws should be so altered that a man's responsibility for his children should be equal in every respect with that of the woman, and such children should bear his name and be entitled to a reasonable share of his estate. Legitimation of children by marriage of the parents which was permitted by Canon Law should be restored.
A woman should not lose her domicile by marriage; all distinction of sex should be abolished before the law, and everything should be done to create or maintain the freedom and equality of women in marriage.

Many wise words are said on the evils in certain cases of separation unconnected with the possibility of divorce, and in the last chapter well-known arguments for the indissolubility of the marriage tie are considered. Mr. Chapman's book should receive the attention of all men and women who concern themselves deeply in the welfare of the human family.

E. P. L.

SOME INTERESTING NOVELS.

We are always finding the Suffragette when we least expect her, or if not the Suffragette herself, the evidence of her permeating spirit! We take up "The Fiddler" by Mrs. J. O. Arnold, and settle ourselves comfortably over the fire. We become absorbed in it; we know the great-aunts as if we had lived at Deepdale ourselves all our lives, so true are they; the skillful unravelling of Sheila's fortunes makes us forget for the time the agitation for the vote, when lo! on page 324 we read:—

"She was an example of the best type of what a man loves to describe as a 'womanly woman' (by which he usually means one who adopts his own opinions without venturing to dissent) . . . To her the vote was as nothing compared with the upholding of the traditions of womanhood. She unquestionably believed in the quite unproved biological forecast that for women to exercise the franchise would be to unsex them . . . She failed to recognise that for an increasing number of her sex home is represented by a bare lodging, earned by toil of brain and hand . . . She was unable to comprehend that

increased political responsibilities must inevitably lead to a fuller realisation of the duties of citizenship."

"The Fiddler" (Alton Rivers, 6s.) is a strong and charming story, and we shall look with great interest for another novel from Mrs. Arnold. Perhaps she will choose a Suffragette for heroine, but even so we hope she will let us have also some more lavender ladies, with their delightfully dainty setting; one would not like to think they were dying out, though one would certainly like them to have a higher sense of honour than Lady Weybourne, the *dea ex machina* of the story.

"A Woman on the Threshold," by Maude Little (Chatto and Windus, 6s.), is the story of a woman who in her youth had a very strong desire to become an authoress. Her first effort, however, was crushed by the man from whom she sought advice and encouragement. For want of scope to work out her genius and courage to live her own life, she accepted marriage, and fell back into a narrow, cramped circle. She still, however, brooded over the hero of her novel, and his characteristics are imprinted on her unborn child in a way which causes her much sorrow. The story touches many modern movements. The characters are excellently drawn and the book is far above the average novel of the day.

"Faith Unfaithful," by A. R. Weekes (Andrew Melrose, 6s.), may be classed as a love story with a youthful outlook on life. We follow the fortunes of the heroine only until her 23rd year. The rather Byronic hero is more mature. The story is interesting—and that is the chief merit of a story, after all. We make the acquaintance of some nice, unconventional people, and live with them through a somewhat hackneyed plot, including murder, Dartmoor, escape, pursuit, to a happy ending. But there are modern touches. Dodo, the heroine, is quite the modern girl—cool, humorous, self-reliant. We rejoice that the hero intends to go in for prison reform. How strong a story might be written really from the inside of prison life, without a heroine in white satin *charmeuse*!

Those who like a story that goes on its way in a leisurely fashion will enjoy "Tillers of the Soil," by J. E. Patterson. (Heinemann 6s.). The story opens with the meeting of the hero and heroine, Lucian and 'Ola, in one of the cornfields belonging to the girl's father; then there is a description of an Essex harvest home, and into the midst of the gaiety is introduced the skeleton in the shape of part of the farmer's past. How Lucian serves his apprenticeship for 'Ola, and how the mysterious Tamar Pringle comes into the farm life, and how eventually the three (Lucian, 'Ola, and Abe) emigrate to Canada are told with plenty of incident.

It is difficult to find a thoughtful novel nowadays which does not touch in some way or another on the suffrage question. "The Reaper of the Whirlwind" is a clever book with an original plot—a young wife confronted with the duty, which womanlike she does not shrink, of nursing at home an elderly husband who is cursed with the family taint of madness. Lady Edentrige is a beautiful character, and deserves the life of love and work which opens for her at the end of her troubles. She is ready gladly to work among the poor, where her stepson and his wife have found their vocation, and where, after a short acquaintance with the misery of those around her, they see that woman's hand is needed. "Jasper," writes the young wife, "says when women get the vote there will be an enormous change for the better in the laws on the women's and children's question." There are clever character studies in the book, particularly one of a worldly and popular bishop.

THE HOME.

The whole subject of the home—how it has changed with time without keeping pace with modern tendencies, how it entails grinding, unending and wasteful labour, and yet falls far short of perfection—is treated in a new and thoughtful book by Mrs. Perkins Gilman, "The Home" (The Charlton Co., New York, \$1). The book is idealistic, but Mrs. Perkins' ideals are always practical. It should be read by every woman.

VERSE.

Britannia Poems Social Political and Satirical with a Preface on Poetry and Politics by Hedley Vicars Storey (the author expressly repudiates commas) is only interesting as regards the "Woman's Movement." The author evidently does not understand it, and repeats the old, worn, empty phrases about woman's supreme position in the past, etc. We should like to hear a mill-hand's opinion of such lines as:—
Too long your sisters have debased themselves
By silly millions though 'gainst will of man.
Accepting sordid days for healthy life.
And he implores: "Get back upon your throne and be a queen" (!) Such ignorance of economic problems is almost amusing. Gloomily he foresees under a Matriarchate:—"The Man degraded, Woman over all. One sex devouring the other." We hope it will not come to that. (Oxford: Shelley Book Agency. 3s. 6d. net.)

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Marriage of Count Malorta." By D. Hugh Pryce, London: Everett and Co. 6s.
"Twentieth Century Magazine" (April), Boston: The Twentieth Century Publishing Co. 25 cents.
"Present Proposals for Woman Suffrage." The People's Suffrage Federation. 1d.
"Shop Workers and the Vote." By Margaret Bondfield, and "Domestic Servants and Citizenship." By Kathlyn Oliver, The People's Suffrage Federation. 2d.

ODD JOBS.

What can a helpless woman do?
Rock the cradle and bake and brew,
Or if no cradle the house afford,
Rock your brother's wife's for your board,
Save men's time by doing their praying,
And other odd jobs there's no present pay in.
But if you presume to usurp employment,
Reserved by them for their special enjoyment,
Or if you succeed when they knew you wouldn't,
Or earn money fast when they said you couldn't,
Or learn to do things they'd proved were above you,
You hurt their feelings, and then they won't love you.
(Verses written at least twenty years ago, and sent us by a correspondent, who does not know the name of the author.)
* By Violet Trefaldale. London: John Long. 6s.

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THE VOICES.

The maiden comes, sent forth by Heaven's King,
To proffer to you peace or deadly war.
Choose which you will . . .
Schiller.

A wayside shrine, with its lamp kept always burning; in the distance, meadows; behind the shrine, a sloping path. A little fair-haired girl runs gaily across the grass and puts her bunch of freshly-gathered flowers at the feet of the Holy Mother. Then, calling "Joan, Joan," the child disappears.

Down the sloping path through the sweet meadows comes Joan the maid, her sheep running before and after her. She is singing; the world seems a pleasant place, and Joan and her little sister Jacqueline two of the happiest people in it.

Joan rests on a flowery bank, and little Jacqueline begs for her crook, and runs off to fold the sheep. "They know me almost as well as they do thee, Joan." Then the sisters lie down to rest. But Joan does not sleep long. The Voices call her—the Voices she has heard all her life. A wonderful vision of Saints Margaret, Catherine and Michael is shown to her, and she is bidden to "Save France!" "And I will!" she responds.

The courtiers, crowding round the King, are dutifully laughing at the royal jokes; it is a scene full of colour and movement. A monk and a peasant maid are announced, and the King chooses to have them brought in. The monk is admitted first, and of such urgency is his message that by the royal command the maid is at once brought in—Charles having first given up his place on the settee by the side of the Queen to a courtier, so that the maid may be put to a test. Will she make a mistake? Very sweet and simple she is, in her peasant dress, with her long hair hanging loosely over her shoulders, among the gaily dressed ladies and gentlemen of the court. She makes no mistake; she discovers the King hiding behind the group of courtiers. Very wonderful is the way in which she dominates the scene.

"Who will follow me?" she cries, and there is a clash of swords as she kneels with the great sword from Rheims in her right hand and the banner of France in her left.

Mounted on her grey horse and followed by her regiment, Joan enters the gates of Orleans. Her strange mission prospers. The king is crowned at Rheims. But her Voices mysteriously leave her: she is wounded and taken prisoner at Compiègne and put in a dungeon, with only a straw pallet for her bed, and her hands are chained.

The word has gone forth. "Holy Church" has decreed that Joan is a witch, and must be burnt at the stake. Only the old monk is her friend still, and when he has led the weeping Jacqueline away, Joan cries in the abandonment of grief, "I am alone!" She has received the cruel sentence. She has protested, simply and with great gentleness, her innocence of any crime, and her one grief is that the Voices seem to have deserted her. But across the silence of the prison there float sweet distant sounds; the Voices have returned; she sees the Vision again. . . .

Behind the solemn procession of black-robed clergy chanting the Miserere there walks the Maid, alone, still with her abundant fair hair hanging loose, and her hands chained. Simple and sweet—so gentle and childlike, yet with the quiet dignity that the consciousness of her mission gives her,—no wonder the onlookers in the market-place weep that one so young and innocent should be condemned to so horrible a death. Once more the Bishop of Beauvais offers her escape, through confession of her sorceries. Once more she protests her innocence of any crime—she would do the same again were France in need!

Still alone, she mounts the pile; the executioner binds her to the stake. She begs one thing—a cross to hold in these last dread moments. The monk rushes forward to give her his crucifix, but the Bishop forbids it. One of her soldiers hands her a sword, and holding it with the cross-shaped hilt raised aloft, she faces the flames.

In the play now running at the Coliseum, Miss Ellaline Terriss, a sweet and childlike Joan, rises above the flames, clothed all in white. And then the curtain comes down.

After all, has the world advanced so very far in these five hundred years? The Church has indeed done its best to repair its terrible crime—the Maid

of Domrémy, despised, feared, and murdered as a witch, has now been pronounced Blessed Joan by His Holiness the Pope, surrounded by French archbishops and bishops, among a vast concourse of worshippers.

But are there not to-day men in high places who are as blind to the truth of the Vision, as deaf to the Voices, as those priests who compassed the martyrdom of that little shepherdess?

"Our eyes are looking very far," said Christabel Pankhurst at the Albert Hall the other night, "we cannot hear, we cannot see the small-minded people who try to hold us back." The day of visions and celestial voices is not yet past, and there are women in England at this moment who are ready, as Joan was, to pay the extreme penalty for the faith that is in them.

Joan of Arc would have saved France. Women to-day would save not one country but humanity.

G. Vaughan.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 1911.

THE ETHICS OF MILITANCY.

The Prime Minister's statement in the House of Commons last Monday shows that the Government intend to leave May 5 free for the second reading of the Conciliation Bill. The principle of the Bill was very fully debated last Session in the two days devoted to that purpose. The Bill of this Session has been made simpler and more democratic by the omission of the £10 occupation qualification, so that it is now a measure to give votes to women householders, but otherwise it is the same Bill which was so fully discussed last year. The House, in spite of the intervening General Election (which has been well called "the re-election"), is virtually the same House as that which carried the second reading of the Bill in July last. This Session, therefore, the second reading will merely be the reiteration of a verdict already declared.

The point which will be especially emphasised in the Second Reading Debate on May 5, may be expected

therefore, to be, not the justice of the women's claim to the vote—that has been admitted already—but the necessity for the immediate passage of the Bill into law. Even opponents now realise that this thing is bound to come, and from their point of view nothing is to be gained by deferring it. On the contrary, the sooner the inevitable plunge is taken the better, so that women can learn by practice how most wisely to use their new power.

There is very much in the present situation to give us hope, and in that hope we work with might and main to bring about the Bill's enactment. We work also in calmness and in strength, because we know that if the Government were again to block the Bill we should nevertheless have our resources; we should be able, that is to say, to take once more to militant methods. But for this, the destruction of the Bill might well bring us to despair; our disappointment and humiliation would be well-nigh intolerable. Yet, because militant methods are ready to hand, it is with us always the case that the moment of apparent defeat is the moment when our pride is highest and our determination most strong. Everyone who has been present at a meeting of our Union, and has heard the announcement of some act of hostility on the part of the Government, must have been impressed by the cry, at once triumphant and defiant, that this announcement has called forth. For, though the Government may defraud us of our rights, they cannot compel us to acquiescence and submission. By dint of militancy we can assert our spiritual freedom. Most profoundly do we believe in the truth declared by Mr. Lloyd George when he said that "to fight against injustice is the only way of keeping the soul undefiled," and again, that "nothing can save a people from the spirit of bondage but incessant protest."

And so it is that in prison women in their hundreds have found the freedom which the law would still deny them. "Because I am here," says the Suffragist prisoner, "I am cleansed of all complicity in the wrong which the State does to women in refusing their citizen rights. I am here because I love freedom more than those who will not fight for it, and more than those who try to rob me of it." A peace of spirit comes to militant Suffragists which was unknown to them before they took their share in this women's rebellion.

Very strange and very wide of the mark seem to them the criticisms made by non-militants. After all, there is nothing which can be said against Suffragist militancy which could not have been said against the militancy of Hampden, and of many another reformer. To-day, as always, "Rebellion against tyrants is obedience to God." To the sight or story of such rebellion the heart-strings vibrate as to nothing else.

People have been heard to say that they deprecate or deplore Suffragette methods—to make vague and sentimental complaint of them. But when do we hear a clear and reasoned statement of the case against militancy? It has been asserted that militant methods bring out the worst in men. Better, we retort, that it should be brought out into the light of day, and be thus destroyed, instead of working untold harm to womanhood in hidden ways. But if it is true that militancy brings out the worst in bad men, it is even more true that it brings out the best in good men. Never have so many men done and sacrificed so much in the women's movement as they are doing to-day.

The further suggestion that militancy is in some way destructive of essential womanly qualities is too absurd and banal for reply. Some such line of argument we believe, was adopted by those who burnt Joan of Arc.

What moral law is broken by militant Suffragists? That is the question to which our critics must give answer, or be critics no more. In justification of militancy we can point to the laws of political life, the lesson of history, the teachings of the wise. But above all this is a question of vision—the vision which is faith. We see that these methods are right and we are ready to pursue them to the end.

Christabel Pankhurst.

WHY I BELIEVE IN WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

By the Rev. T. Rhodda Williams.

Extracted from a Speech in Queen's Hall, London, on Monday, March 27, 1911.

When I first spoke on suffrage I said I had never come across an argument against it that would stand five minutes' investigation. I am still looking for that argument. It has not turned up yet. I find prejudice, the historic feeling, the traditional feeling about women, but I have not found an argument.

As to tactics, the position I have always taken as a man is that I do not discuss the tactics of the women. What I feel is this: Even if I condemned the tactics myself I should not say so in public, because I think that a little modesty ought to be added to us when we remember what men did when they wanted the vote. It does not really behove us to tell the women that they ought not to do this, that, or the other thing when they are fighting for their rights and we are helping them not at all—or very little. And, in any case, that is a side-issue. It has nothing to do with the right or the justice of the demand itself, and for that I stand. Then as to how women would use the vote, I do not think I have any right to tell a woman that she shall not vote because I think she won't vote as I do! The contradictory prophecies as to how women would use the vote are very amusing. I propose those fears should be left to kill one another, and get on to the business.

The Real Hindrance.

The thing that stands in our way is the party point of view. We are overcome with parties in England. No party is quite sure what is going to happen to its own fortunes if women get the vote, and so every party more or less holds back. Now, if we would only rise to the human point of view the question would be settled at once. What we want is that parties shall realise that women cannot attain fulness of life until they get political and economic liberty, and, moreover, that men cannot be at their best until they have freed women. This movement is as necessary for the benefit of men as for the benefit of women. If one race holds another in slavery, that is no doubt bad for the slaves, but it is even worse for the slave-owner. The owner will develop a character that will be a greater degradation than anything that can happen to the slave. It is so with women and men. A man cannot be a just man—I say, without hesitation, a man cannot be a good man if he even wishes to keep women in bondage.

Sometimes a man says that men and women are different, and because they are different I suppose the argument runs that men should vote and women should not. Now, really, when a man says that he must be at his wife's end!

Imperial Instinct.

Then I sometimes hear men say, "Oh, but I could not trust women's Imperial Instinct." I think of men's Imperial Instinct in the last thirty years, and what it has brought us to. Does not one statesman after another stand up and say that the armaments of the nations are bringing every nation to bankruptcy, and does he not invariably end up by saying we cannot help ourselves? If that is the hopeless muddle that men's Imperial Instinct has brought us to, for goodness' sake let us try the women. I admit that there are differences between men and women. That is why we want to get the women in politics. If I knew the women would be just the same as the men have been, I would not raise my finger to help them. There is a divine difference, and it is a tremendous argument, not only for the Suffrage but for all the other great causes involved in this movement.

Why Women are Needed.

One of the great difficulties of the modern organisation of our life is that it lacks the inspiration which the woman's soul could give it. What is the curse of our modern business life? Is it not that all things are subjected to materialistic success? Materialistic success is the Moloch through whose fires and smoke the bodies of men, women, and little children are passed in thousands. The woman influence in the industrial affairs of the country would be a humanising of methods.

The same thing applies to our prison system. Do you suppose our prison system would be what it is to-day if the prison commissioners consisted, as they ought to, of an equal number of men and of women? We want what the women can bring to the administration of the prison life of our country. It is quite true that women are more idealistic than men, and every department of life is suffering from the want of idealism. There is a woman touch that men have not got, and that we want in every department of life.

The Home.

The truth is that by many artificial elements in our civilisation we have created a good many unhealthy and damaging differences between men and women. Take the old stock argument that the home is the woman's sphere. Even if it were a sound argument, it would only apply to the women who have not homes

—and vast numbers have not. It is an entirely false argument even with regard to those who have. Those who use it forget the difference between the modern world and the world, say, of the eighteenth century. In the old world most of life was practically in the home. The industry, the loom, was in the house, education was either in the house or close to it, even sport could be seen from the open door; it was close by. The mother was in touch with the work by which the living was made, the way in which the child was educated, even with the recreation and the sport, what there was of it. But all that has changed. Now, the home is a thing apart from the activities of life. It is still very precious, in spite of the fact that there are so many thousands of hovels that never can be homes. Where there is a home it is still the citadel of English virtue. But the isolation of the home makes it necessary for women who are mothers to go outside the home for two reasons, first, in order to come into touch with those departments of life which have been detached from the home; and secondly, in order to get sufficient knowledge to be a competent mother. It is quite a common thing for a boy at fifteen or sixteen to say, "Oh mother, you don't understand!" And that is the truth of it, and it is inevitable, because you have confined the mother to the home, where she is detached from the activities of life. Many boys in their homes to-day are discontented and restless. I cannot speak so much for girls, but I think it is true there too. My argument is that if you confine a woman to the home she will fail even as a mother. But even if confining the woman to the home did make the home a success—which it does not—I do not think that we men would have any right to wave our majestic hands over the sex and say, "Your sphere is the home!" That is what men have done, and then they have constituted themselves law makers, law administrators and captains of industry. In other words, they have undertaken to manage things and to govern.

Now, it turns out that under man's government, women have been left under very great hardships. Can anyone read the proceedings of the Divorce Commission without coming to the conclusion that the voice of woman is needed in the legislation of this country? I say, too, that women ought to have their place among the judges and jurymen of the country. You know this movement has shown us a great many things. I admit to you that I never thought of that point until very recently. And the unequal treatment of women in industry of course is indisputable. Then when they came to enter the professions, all sorts of obstacles were put in their way, and wherever they have made their way, wherever it is possible to pay them less than men, we do it. We shall never be fair until we have made women as free as men to choose their sphere in life, and until we have treated them equally with men when they have chosen.

The Vote as the Key.

I think that no phenomenon of our public life is so full of promise for the betterment of mankind as this women's movement. In all countries women are rising to claim economic independence and their full emancipation. The Parliamentary Franchise is only a means to an end, and the gaining of it is only a very small part of the work that these women are going to do. The economic dependence of women is one of the curses of our modern life. It is responsible for more misery in married life than we can measure, and it has inflicted incalculable hardships upon unmarried women. Political enfranchisement is necessary to economic emancipation. It was so in the case of men. They could not set about claiming economic rights until they got political rights. It will be the same with women. That is what the women have seen. That is why they are calling for the vote, and that is why they ought to get it. So long as they are without votes I am afraid we men will use them to further our own ends. When we want the women's help in politics to further our own schemes we never doubt their capacity. In fact we become quite flattering. But this great women's movement has transcended the party point of view.

The Rib.

There has arisen a great woman consciousness; a consciousness of a great woman mission, a mission which only a woman can properly fulfil, and which lifts the whole status of women in society. So far as I can see nothing but good can come of it. An old writer said that the woman was made from a man's rib, you remember. Now, I know one Hebrew scholar who maintains that the Hebrew word there does not mean rib at all, it means a whole side—it took the whole side of a man to make a woman. Now how in the world did that old writer come to think of that? He must have seen what a one-sided creature man was without woman. That is the fact, any way. There is no sphere in life where woman's influence is not needed by the world, and the world will be all the better and sweeter for it. As for the political sphere, I think the influence of women will be a cleansing stream. That

is the reason why some men do not want you in politics.

I believe that idealism in a woman's nature is more persistent than in a man's nature, and the result of women being in political life will not be to drag them down but to draw men up. Men must put aside that idea of supremacy which is their inheritance from the barbaric time when the woman was the property of the man—an idea still visible in our laws, in a great many of our educational methods, and in the marriage services of a good many of our churches. The marriage service ought to give to the man and the woman the same vow, to recognise their equality all through. Girls should be trained to take their place side by side with their brothers. Boys should never be allowed for a moment to entertain the idea that they are superior to the girls. I regard the granting of the Parliamentary Franchise to women as an act of justice, absolutely necessary to the re-making, the re-civilising, and the bettering of our world. We shall never be a free nation as long as we hold women in bondage to men.

An Appeal.

I should like to appeal to all ministers of religion to come forward much more frankly to advocate the women's cause, and to ask them what is the Christian ideal. What does the minister read about in his own New Testament? There is neither bond nor free. There is neither man nor woman in Christ's religion. Now, I know very well that the man who wrote that did not see every application of it. He did not see that it meant the setting free of slaves, for instance. But we don't always see where the truth carries us. It was the truth, the germinal ideal. In due time that idea found its way into the freedom of the slave. The man who wrote it perhaps did not see that it must mean the absolute equality of men and women in all departments of life, but, that also, I think is coming to its own. And in this ministers ought to help. They must regard woman as a personality. Now, there is no real full development of personality without freedom, the freedom of every person to count for all that he or she is worth to the community. But women are not allowed to count for all they are worth to the community. If they were to do you suppose that deputations to Prime Ministers and Cabinet Ministers would be treated as they have been treated? Do you suppose that any number of persons so representative, so self-sacrificing, and representing so much woman would have been treated as those women were treated if they had votes? This is a religious question, and ministers and churches ought not to ignore it, but to help it. The ultimate end of this movement is to uplift society, to cleanse and purify life, to make men and women stand shoulder to shoulder as comrades. I hope the women in the movement will continue the fight until they have planted their banner on the hills of victory.

GETTING NEW READERS.

I referred last week to two Scotswomen and the wonderful work they were doing for the paper and expressed the belief that among our English, Welsh, and Irish members were some who had an equally good account to give themselves. Sure enough this week I am able to give particulars of an Englishwoman—Miss Berridge, of Margate—who during the last few months has worked up a list of five dozen copies per week. In addition she gives away here-of, regularly, six or eight copies. She writes that as she is a nurse it is sometimes difficult for her to get out the copies on Friday and Saturday when she has not long been off duty. What a wonderful spirit there is in members of the Union which prompts them while hard at work earning their living to devote time and money to the great work. I have many of her interesting letters which I am holding over for want of space.

April 3-April 8.

Table listing names of subscribers and their respective copy counts for the period April 3 to April 8.

The following members who have obtained new readers prefer to get their copies locally:—

Table listing names of members who prefer to get their copies locally, including Miss Sainsbury, Miss K. L. Hatch, and Miss R. Farmer.

The local members in Falmouth have subscribed for a poster to be shown each week at the station bookstall and the members in York hope shortly to be able to do the same.

F. W. P. L.

In last week's paper Aberfeldy should have been Aberfeldy (Perthshire).

shop, Mrs. Waller for a carpet for the platform, and Dr. Mackenzie for curtains. The gift of a Scarborough banner for the procession on June 17 would be much appreciated. Will members intending to go on the next Deputation, if necessary, send in their names? Members are urgently needed to help at Baiter's on the 15th. Will some one see that the paper is sent to the printer for the paper selling on Friday mornings? Saturday, April 15.—Whitby (outdoor), Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m. Monday, April 17.—West Pier (Ship in wet), Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 18.—Fray Sandis, Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 19.—39, Hantrias Row, Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT. Organiser—Miss Adela Pankhurst. Hon. Treas.—Mrs. Archdale. Shop 25-28, Chapel Walk, Sheffield.

An excellent meeting was arranged in Drinfeld Town Hall by Mrs. Greated. Miss A. Pankhurst and Miss Outram were the speakers. The resolution was carried by only four dissentients. Mrs. Drummond kindly spoke at the members' rail on Tuesday afternoon and evening. Mrs. Scurlfield and Miss Adela Pankhurst will speak at a drawing-room meeting kindly arranged by Mrs. Dawson at Leedsfield on April 23 and 24. Mrs. Pankhurst will again speak at a mothers' meeting at the Wyckoff Chapel, by kind permission of the Rev. T. T. James in the evening. Mrs. Dickens and Miss Denton will send their names to undertake the task of getting Votes for Women posters well displayed. Will all members and readers who can do anything to help in this kindly committee with either of them, personally on Friday morning or by letter. Miss Scurlfield, jun., will be glad to receive promises of goods or money for the jumble sale on May 20. The first year's list of a postal list of names from the United Kingdom has almost expired, and an appeal is now made to members and friends to subscribe 25s. towards next year. Volunteers for canvassing, and those willing to stand at Mrs. Pankhurst's Albert Hall meeting on May 1, are asked to send their names to Mrs. Archdale. Kindly note that all tickets not returned by first post on Monday morning, May 1, will be counted as sold. Mrs. Jefferson, Mrs. I.R.A.M., has kindly consented to play the organ, and Mr. George Blenbow will conduct the choir. Middleton is devoting her Easter holiday to working up this meeting in Sheffield, and Miss Williams of Doncaster, will spend her holiday at Barnley. The shop will have a special Australian window the week before Miss Goldstein's visit. Members requiring tickets to meet Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Vial Goldstein on the afternoon of May 1 should let the organiser know at once. Mrs. Pankhurst will speak at Doncaster at the Corn Exchange on April 23, at 8 p.m. A committee of ladies will run the meeting, and information can be obtained from Mrs. Fisher, 61, Albany Road, Bally. Thursday, April 20.—Royton, L.P. Meeting.

YORK. Office—8, New Street. Organiser—Miss Key-Jones. Hon. Sec.—Mrs. Coullate, 33, Melbourne Street. Mrs. Pankhurst's visit to the Festival Concert Room, York, on April 23 is being eagerly anticipated. The city has been divided up into districts, and many members have undertaken to deliver bills and sell tickets in part or the whole of a district. Those who have not already joined the list of workers are asked to call or communicate with Miss Key-Jones at the office. Members are urged to do their best in making an effort to secure a successful meeting. Tickets, 2s. and 1s. Jumble sale on May 6. Will members and friends kindly be on the alert at all times, and beg old clothes, etc., when they can.

North-Western Counties. LIVERPOOL AND DISTRICT. Office—11, Renshaw Street, Tel. 3761 Royal. Organiser—Miss Davies. The new offices opened on Friday with a members' At Home. Mrs. Abraham spoke, and Miss Stephenson, from Manchester, and Miss Lynton, from Cheltenham, gave most amusing experiences of Census night. The organisers will be at Home every Monday afternoon, and tea can be had between four and five p.m. for those who wish. Most sincere and grateful thanks to artist members, Miss Baird and Mr. Jenkins, for the delightful pictures they have lent to the new office, also for the pretty paper-stand sent by Mrs. Avery, and the lines by Miss Margaret Kerr.

MANCHESTER AND DISTRICT. Central Office—17, St. Ann's Square, Manchester. Tel. 190 Central. Organiser—Miss Stephenson. At last Friday's Home Miss Mary Phillips gave an interesting speech, which included an amusing account of her own experience of Census night. Members please note the offices closed on Wednesday, April 12, and reopen on Wednesday, April 13. The At Home will recommence on Friday, April 28, when the "General," Mrs. Drummond, who will remain in Manchester for some time, will be the speaker. An open-air campaign in and around Manchester, drawing-room meetings (Mrs. Pankhurst's weekly), and possibly another visit from Miss Vial Goldstein are under consideration. Members are asked to prepare for the monster demonstration on June 17 in London. Tickets for the Albert Hall meeting should be applied for at once from the office. A branch of the Purple, White and Green Club is being formed in Manchester for members under 21 years of age. For particulars apply to Miss Cannon at this office.

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PRESTON, ST. ANNE'S-ON-THE-SEA AND DISTRICT. Organiser—Mrs. Rigby, 41, Glover's Court, Preston. Miss Johnson, the Hydro, Lytham. Warmest thanks to Miss May and her friends for the enjoyable social on March 23, also to the local hon. secretary who will be warmly missed. Miss Mary Mackenzie is unfortunately obliged to leave Scarborough for some time. Will some one see that the paper is sent to the printer for the paper selling on Friday mornings? Saturday, April 15.—Whitby (outdoor), Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m. Monday, April 17.—West Pier (Ship in wet), Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 18.—Fray Sandis, Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m. Wednesday, April 19.—39, Hantrias Row, Miss Adela Pankhurst, 8 p.m.

SOUTHPORT. Office—1, Post Office Avenue, Lord Street. Hon. Sec.—Ethel Ashby.

The new quarters looked quite brilliant on Friday last, the walls having been decorated in green and white, while a new covering with two large rugs adorned the floor. Gratefully acknowledged—Miss Jane Whittaker, 25, Mrs. Cairns, 25, Mrs. Flower, 21, Mrs. Birt, 54, and Mrs. Hoading, 12, 54. Will all members who did not pay their monthly subscription this week please send to the treasurer (duo the first Thursday in each month) on Friday, April 13, 1, Post Office Avenue, 7.30. Friday, April 14.—Canavan, near the Lifeboat House, and Saturday, April 15.—Miss Marks and Miss Woodcock, 3.30.

WALLASEY. Hon. Secs.—Mrs. Mahood, Burscough Bridge, Lancs.; Mrs. P. Heathcote, 21, Marina Lane, Liscard. The Census Party at Miss Hoy's was a huge success. The house was packed with people, and refreshments being served at intervals during the night. "Three minute speeches" caused much merriment, the prize ultimately going to a lady from Ireland who joined the Union that night. Mrs. Andrews took first prize at every Friday at 7.45 p.m. sharp. Entrance fee 3d. weekly, proceeds to be used for the purchase of educational literature. The Library books are only to be kept one week, and must be returned or sent by post before the next class. Members are limited to ten classes, and it must be clearly understood that no one is admitted to a class or two classes Monday for selling the paper on the sands? The Private Classes are held at 41, Norfolk Square (Pratt Street Station), by kind permission of Mrs. Ayrton, on Tuesdays at 7.45, on Saturdays at 4 p.m.

Scotland. **BERDEEN.** Hon. Sec.—Miss Luchin, 81, Queen's Road. A meeting was held in the Public Hall, Gutter, on April 14th, when Miss Burns gave a very interesting address. The chairman, Dr. Smart, and Mrs. Kington Parkes, Tax Resistance League, will be the speaker, and a large attendance is requested. It is proposed to hold a Jumble Sale on Saturday, April 22. Will members please get promises of goods from friends who are spring-cleaning.

EDINBURGH AND EAST OF SCOTLAND. Office—4, Melville Place, Ouseferry Street. Organiser—Miss Lucy Burns, B.A., Tel. 681 Central. Local members have had the delightful opportunity of hearing Miss Goldstein on two occasions. On Thursday, March 30, Mr. Patrick Lawson made a rousing speech, dwelling particularly on the great value of extending the circulation of the paper. Miss Goldstein spoke on the power for good the women's vote had already been in Australia. Thanks to Mrs. Blair for organising the splendid meeting. On Thursday, April 20, members are reminded that Mrs. Ayrton will speak at 8, Melville Place.

GLASGOW AND WEST OF SCOTLAND. Shop and Office—52, Sauchiehall Street. Tel. 218, Charles Cross. Organiser—Miss Wylie. Miss Vial Goldstein's meeting was largely attended, and her clear exposition of the beneficial effect of the woman's vote in Australia most impressive. She was loudly cheered as she passed to her motor after the meeting. Mr. Druval made a good fighting speech, and Mr. Macenrick was a very staunch chairman. Will members always bear in mind the fact that they must never cease fighting the Press boycott. Dr. Chapman has defrayed the cost of a large number of six hundred denunciations to the clergyman of Glasgow. Will other members help in missionary work of this description? Saturday's At Home proved exceptionally enjoyable, for not only did Miss Eva Williams give a delightful address, but Miss Eva Moore most kindly gave two recitations.

WEDDING AND BIRTHDAY PRESENTS. For the most beautiful designs, combined with the highest quality at competitive prices, see the collection of Gem Jewellery, Gold and Silver Plate on view at the Goldsmiths and Silversmiths Company, Ltd., 112, Regent Street, London, W. (Advt.)

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SPEAKERS' CLASS. Hon. Elocution Mistress—Miss Rosa Leo, 45, Ashworth Mansions, Elgin Avenue, W. Hon. Secretary—Miss Hale, 4, Clements Inn, W.C. The public classes will recommence on Friday, April 22, and the private ones on Saturday, April 23, and on Tuesday, May 2. During the holidays the open-air campaign is being kept up as usual.

RULES.
1. Members of the Union only are eligible.
2. The Class is held at 4, Clements Inn, Room 72, every Friday at 7.45 p.m. sharp.
3. Entrance fee 3d. weekly, proceeds to be used for the purchase of educational literature.
4. The Library books are only to be kept one week, and must be returned or sent by post before the next class.
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THE ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE. 2, Robert Street, Strand, W.C. Telephone: City 1211. President: Mrs. Forbes Robertson. Organising Secretary: Miss Jean Duffield. Last Friday's At Home at the Criterion Restaurant was attended with its usual success. The hall was crowded almost directly the doors opened and several well-known "arts" were recognised. Miss Lilian Broughton made a telling and forceful speech from the chair, and was followed by interesting speeches from Mrs. Nevinson, Mrs. Archibald Little, and Mrs. Harold Grant. Money for three more East End meetings was subscribed by the audience.

The Play Department announces the second of a series of performances at the Bohemian Theatre, for the trial of propaganda plays. The programme will consist of three one-act pieces—"Trimnings," by M. Silvee Medowan; "An Allegory," by Vana Wentworth, and "The Eclectic Club," by J. Maurice Hunter. Among those who have already promised their services are Miss Maud Hoffman, Mr. Dennis Clough, Mr. Frederick Worlock, Miss Violet Bazalgette, Miss Jeanne Finlay, Mr. Ross Hoffman, Mr. Alfred Harris, Mr. A. B. Finlay, Mr. Arthur Stewart, and Miss Innes-Moore. Tickets may be obtained from the Hon. Treasurer, Play Department, Miss Victoria Addison, 37, Avenue Road, Kensington, W., or from the offices of the League, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C., office 35, and 26, all unreserved, and from Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C. As the accommodation is limited, those desirous of witnessing the performance should apply early for tickets.

CONSERVATIVE & UNIONIST WOMEN'S FRANCHISE ASSOCIATION. 48, Dover Street, W. It has been decided to take a stall at the Festival of Empire, Crystal Palace, Literature, &c., will be sold. It is earnestly hoped that members, and especially London and South London members, will offer help at once. Help may be given in three ways: (1) By sending any manuscript from an expert upwards, towards stocking and decorating (the Council and the stall) (2) by personal service at the stall for a day or half a day; (3) by sending small blue, or blue, gold and white articles for the stall. Offers of help should be addressed to the Hon. Organiser, Miss H. Parker (Hall), 42, Dover Street, W., or to the Secretary, Mrs. Kennington branch held at the Secretary's residence, 42, Dover Street, W., on Tuesday evening, April 4. The stall was taken by Miss Marjell Thompson, and speeches were made by Mrs. Brownlow and Mr. Cecil Chapman. This branch is engaging its sphere of activities by organising an important meeting for business people in South Kensington, to be held on Tuesday, April 11, when the man or the woman in the street will be the speaker will be the Hon. Mrs. W. W. Nevinson. It is hoped by this means to interest many of the leading tradesmen and their families in the Woman's Suffrage.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. Office—6, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge (opposite Tube Station). Good meetings have been held at Inverness, Maldon and Wilham. A meeting will be held in Hythe on April 27, at which Mr. Cecil Chapman will speak. Meetings are also being arranged at St. Leonards, Wicheles and Hythe in conjunction with local branches. The mid-Suffragist campaign has splendid results in arousing interest, and resolutions urging the member to give effective support to the Constitutional Bill have been sent in abundantly. Funds are urgently needed. Office At Home, 10, Westmoreland Street, W., on Tuesday, April 4, Miss Bathurst spoke, and emphasised the need for private prayer and meditation, and address will be given at 11 and 3.30 by Rev. C. Hunsell, and at 6.30 by Rev. J. H. Chapman, Chaplain of the Savoy. Arrangements for the Mission are nearly completed, and the following meetings can be announced: Tuesday, May 16, 10.30, 11.30, M.P., and others. Wednesday, May 17, 10.30, 11.30 p.m., for members only; speaker, Miss Maude Edmondson.

CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. President—The Bishop of Lincoln. Offices—11, St. Mark's Crescent, Regent Park, N.W. Branches are being formed in the City (St. Ethelburg's, Bishopsgate, E.C.), under the presidency of Rev. Dr. Cobb, and at Park Street, Dorset, under Rev. and Hon. Reginald Alderdice. The secretary will address meetings at Worcester, Shrewsbury, May 10; and Oswestry, May 11. The inaugural meeting of the Working Branch takes place on May 4; speakers, Hon. Mrs. Hemmings, Mrs. W. W. Nevinson, and Miss W. W. Nevinson. The Royal Chapel of the Savoy will be open all day for private prayer and meditation, and addresses will be given at 11 and 3.30 by Rev. C. Hunsell, and at 6.30 by Rev. J. H. Chapman, Chaplain of the Savoy. Arrangements for the Mission are nearly completed, and the following meetings can be announced: Tuesday, May 16, 10.30, 11.30, M.P., and others. Wednesday, May 17, 10.30, 11.30 p.m., for members only; speaker, Miss Maude Edmondson.

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