

The War Paper for Women

VOTES FOR WOMEN

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

VOL. VIII. (Third Series), No. 367.

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1915.

Price 1d. Weekly (Post Free) ^{1d.}

WOMEN INTO THE BREACH!



Our cartoonist shows this week some of the ways in which the work of the country is being carried on by women during the absence of the men, and some of the victories that have been won in the scientific world by women since the war broke out

UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

3, Adam Street, Strand, London, W.C. Telephone, Regent 5150
Colours: Purple, White and Orange

THE CAMPAIGN Indoor Meetings

THURSDAY, MARCH 18: 8 p.m.—PUBLIC MEETING.—ESSEX HALL, ESSEX STREET, STRAND. SPEAKERS: MR. STACY AUMONIER, MR. JOHN SCURR, DR. BARBARA TCHAYKOVSKY. CHAIR: MRS. AGNES H. HARBEN. ADMISSION FREE. RESERVED SEATS, 1s., FROM U.S. TICKET SECRETARY.

Tuesday, March 23: 8 p.m.—Open Meeting.—U.S. Women's Club. Speaker: Mrs. Ayton Gould.

Wednesday, March 24: 4 p.m.—At Home.—The Library, Prince Arthur Road, Hampstead. Speakers: Mrs. Arncliffe Bennett and Miss Evelyn Sharp. Hostesses: Mrs. Whelan and Mrs. Zauggwill.

Wednesday, March 24: 7 to 9 p.m.—At Home.—Fieldtop, Amsesham. Hostess: Mrs. Drinkwater.

Thursday, March 25: 8 p.m.—Public Meeting.—Chorley Wood Hotel. Speaker: Mr. Cameron Grant. Chair: Mrs. Biddle. Admission Free.

Thursday, March 25: 8 p.m.—Public Meeting.—Red Cross Hotel, White Cross Street, Borough. Speakers: Mrs. Scurr, Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck, Miss Mary Phillips, and Miss Evelyn Sharp. Chair: Miss Annie Somers, B.A. Admission Free. Reserved Seats 6d., from U.S. Women's Club, or U.S. Offices.

Friday, March 26: 8.30 p.m.—Entertainment in aid of U.S. Women's Club.—Parish Hall, 60, Paddington Street, High Street, Marylebone. Espérance Girls' Club. Speaker: Miss Evelyn Sharp. Tickets, 2s., 1s., 6d., from Miss Mary Neal, 50, Cumberland Market, N.W. (See opposite page.)

Friday, April 16: 7.45 p.m.—Public Meeting.—Temperance Institute, Southport. Speakers: Mr. John Scurr and Miss M. Douglas on "Women and War."

Wednesday, April 21: 3 p.m.—Drawing-room Meeting.—Walsall. Speaker: Miss Evelyn Sharp.

Wednesday, April 21: 8 p.m.—Public Meeting.—Queen's College (Large Hall), Birmingham. Speaker: Miss Evelyn Sharp. Chair: Mr. Percy Adams.

Outdoor Meetings

Friday, March 19: 8 p.m.—Skipton Street. Speaker: Mr. Stephenson Squiter.

Sunday, March 21: 11.30 a.m.—The Flagstaff, Hampstead Heath. Miss Alison Neilans and Mr. Clifford Rowe.

Tuesday, March 23: 3 p.m.—Corner of Webber Street and Waterloo Road. Speaker: Miss Somers.

Wednesday, March 24: 8 p.m.—Corner of Union Street and Southwark Bridge Road. Speaker: Miss Daisy Gibbs.

SOUTH LONDON CAMPAIGN Organiser, Miss Mary Phillips, 92, Borough Road, S.E.

A meeting of Southwark U.S. members was held at the Women's Club on Friday last to discuss plans for working up the Red Cross Hall meeting next Thursday. Encouraging speeches were made by Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck and Miss Evelyn Sharp, many helpful suggestions came from the members, and each one was eager to volunteer for some share in the great fight for women's freedom. Refreshments were kindly given by Mrs. Parkyn, Mrs. Ibbotson Hutt (who also helped splendidly in preparing and serving them), Mrs. Whelan, and Mrs. Gov. Several new open-air meetings were arranged (see Campaign), at which it is hoped members will turn up to support the speakers. House-to-house canvassing with VOTES FOR WOMEN and handbills is also being undertaken. Handbills and tickets for 25th may be had at the Club, or at 3, Adam Street. The organiser will gladly welcome help, either of work or money, for expenses of campaign.

U.S. WOMEN'S CLUB 92, Borough Road, S.E. Secretary, Miss M. R. Cochrane

We wish to thank Miss Walford for a gift of 10s. for linoleum for the stairs of the club; also Miss Evelyn Sharp for some pictures. On Tuesday Mrs. Cavendish Bentinck came and talked to us at the usual evening meeting, and on Thursday there was a most enthusiastic audience when Lady Sybil Smith came and sang to us. The meeting of the members of the Club who are also members of the U.S., which was held here on Friday evening, was a great success, and bodes well for the success of the meeting to be held at the Red Cross Hall on March 25.

AMERSHAM AND CHESHAM U.S.

Hon. Sec., Mrs. Drinkwater, Fieldtop, Amersham
I shall be "At Home" to members on Wednesday, March 24, from 7 to 9 p.m., to discuss ways and means to increase our energies to keep our U.S. flag flying. Mrs. Colin Campbell, Mrs. Whiteman, and Mr. Drinkwater have kindly given plants for sale to benefit the U.S. General Fund. Who will buy? I shall be glad to know of any friends willing to give drawing-room meetings in this district.

BIRMINGHAM U.S.

Hon. Sec., Miss Haly, 19, New Street
It is encouraging to record that eight dozen VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold last week, and that several new members have joined us. But as all Suffragists regard successes merely as incentives to harder work, the committee are confident that more and more volunteers will come forward to reinforce the gallant band of men and women who are determined to carry the Suffrage flag to victory, cost what it may. To begin with, who will volunteer to keep the office open on Wednesday afternoon?

BOLTON U.S.

Hon. Sec., Mrs. Jessie Crompton, 68, Hilden Street
This week our papers have sold well. On Friday night five strangers bought copies, and on Saturday morning our women were cheered by wounded soldiers who, as they were being driven round the town, saw our posters. So Tommy evidently appreciates our efforts. On Tuesday we are to attend a public meeting of the I.L.P., when we intend to sell our paper and distribute 200 leaflets. "Why we keep the Suffrage flag flying." Please look out for speaker

the Temperance Institute on Friday, April 16, at 7.45 p.m. If all members will work their hardest, we should have a first-rate meeting, but it will mean hard work for each one of us. Members, and indeed all who are interested in Suffrage work in Southport, are asked to let the Hon. Sec. know how they are willing to help. We must get a large number of tickets sold, and we must get the meeting well advertised. This is work that all can do to some extent.

STROUD U.S.

Hon. Sec., Miss S. Edelmänn, Whiteway, Near Stroud

We feel that our members have had quite sufficient rest from Suffrage work, and are, therefore, determined to start again after Easter. A small meeting will be held in the early part of April, which will be followed by a large public meeting at the end of the month. Will all who are willing to help in this fresh effort please let us have their names at once?

"VOTES FOR WOMEN" FUND

Donations Received up to March 13

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Already acknowledged.	641 3 6	Glasgow Meeting (Collection and Sale of Tickets)	16 0 11
Miss B. Brewster	2 0 0	Miss C. A. Little	1 0 0
Miss Brown (per Mrs. Neal)	1 0 0	Mrs. Moorby	0 2 0
Mrs. Christie	0 10 0	Miss Teacher	2 2 0
Miss A. H. Dalgliesh	0 2 0	(per Miss Neal)	0 10 0
Miss K. Emis	1 0 0		
			£665 8 11

WOMEN'S CLUB FUND

Donations Received up to March 13

£ s. d.	
Already acknowledged	208 2 8
Club Receipts	0 18 7
Profits on Café Chantant Stall	4 8 5
"A Leeds Member," per Mrs. Dogdon	20 0 0
	£233 9 8

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If not, fill in this form and send it to the Publisher of

VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

I wish to become a Subscriber to VOTES FOR WOMEN for

1 Year	and enclose ..	6/6
6 Months .. .	" .. "	3/3
3 Months .. .	" .. "	1/8

Name and Title.....

Address.....

for next week. And in April we are to have the privilege of meeting Miss Margaret Douglas and Mr. John Scurr.

LIVERPOOL U.S.

Hon. Sec., Miss Isabel Buxton, 111, Queen's Road, Liverpool
Will all local readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN please communicate with the Hon. Sec., and also all those who are anxious to "Keep the Suffrage flag flying" during the war? It will then be possible for the Hon. Sec. to let them know all the engagements of the Branch. We want a number of small subscriptions towards getting a VOTES FOR WOMEN poster shown at the Central Station. Many thanks to the following for their donations to this object: Mrs. Forquinos, Capt. and Mrs. Granville Giles, Mrs. Graham, Mrs. Halsall, Mrs. Imlack, Miss MacEwan, and Miss Marks. More subscriptions, please!

MANCHESTER U.S.

Hon. Sec., Mrs. L. E. Smith, Onward Buildings, Deansgate, Manchester
We have engaged a room in the Onward Buildings, Deansgate, Manchester, for weekly meetings, which will be held every Friday at 7.30 p.m. The fact that this room has been taken for a year shows that we are in real earnest and mean business. The Large Hall in the same building will be used for public meetings, the first of which is to take place in May. Will members and friends please note the official address?

SOUTHPORT U.S.

Hon. Sec., Mrs. J. Shipman, 14, Manchester Road
We have been fortunate enough to get Mr. John Scurr and Miss Margaret Douglas for a meeting at



NEW SPRING BLOUSES
Copied and Adapted from the most exclusive Models by our own highly skilled workers, in a large variety of New and Fashionable Materials.

BLOUSE (as sketch), in Crepe Faconne Brocade, with yoke of hand veined fabric, buttons of brocade in groups of five, high collar at back.
In ivory and black.

16/9

Debenham & Freebody
Wigmore Street (Cavendish Square) London W

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DEDICATION

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

Last Tuesday, the House of Commons adjourned until April 14, in spite of an eloquent appeal from Sir William Byles for a shorter recess and for a more continuous session of Parliament. "I am a little afraid," he said, "of any Government being unchecked for four weeks. . . . I get uneasy when the House of Commons is closed." Sir William Byles gave a vote and a seat in Parliament; yet he is "uneasy" and "afraid" of what the Government, whom the exigencies of war have forced to assume supreme power, will do unchecked by the House of Commons.

Women and the House of Commons

The assumption of arbitrary powers by the Executive is a far greater danger to women than to Sir William Byles, or to any man in the country. The only guarantee against tyranny on the part of Governments at all times is their direct responsibility to the governed. The necessity for this guarantee is increased tenfold at a time like the present, when the war is made a reason for a Cabinet dictatorship. We therefore heartily endorse Sir William Byles's protest against a lengthy adjournment of the People's House. But we go further, and say that if women are not to be the chief sufferers under the new dictatorship, the first thing the House of Commons should do on re-assembling is to bring in a measure to enfranchise women and to make the Government responsible to the whole people, whose lives they are ordering at the present moment, and not only to half the people. Parliament could reasonably occupy itself in thus safeguarding the liberties of the people while the Executive is absorbed in the business of the war. Perhaps Sir William Byles will bring in such a Bill?

Women and Peace Movements

Three unofficial Conferences will be held in the immediate future to discuss, not the origins of the present war or the way to end it, but the relations of women to war and peace, and the best means of making their voices heard in order to ensure that peace, when it comes, shall be permanent instead of temporary. We have spoken in former issues of VOTES FOR WOMEN of the Women's International Congress, which will take place in Holland on April 28, 29, and 30, and at which women both of the belligerent and neutral countries will be present. Of a more spiritual nature will be the Conference on Monday next, when three great meetings for men and women will be held in the Central Hall, Westminster, at 11 a.m., 2.30 p.m., and 6 p.m., to consider "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement in its Relation to War and Peace." Among the speakers will be the Bishop of Lincoln, Dr. Percy Dearmer, Dr. Orchard, Miss Maude Royden, Mrs. Bruce Glasier, Mr. H. W. Nevinsion; and the Rev. W. Temple will be in the Chair.

A British Movement

A third Conference of women, to be followed by a public meeting in the evening, has been

arranged for April 14 in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, in connection with the Union of Democratic Control, when the resolutions to be proposed, dealing with the enfranchisement of women, the abolition of secret diplomacy, the nationalisation of armament manufactures, and so on, will bring this Women's Peace Movement into line both with the International Peace Movement and also with the American Women's Peace Party, with which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is so closely connected. Both the Conference at the Hague and that in the Caxton Hall will make a demand for the instant declaration of the terms on which the Allies are prepared to make peace.

Suffragists and Peace

In all these various movements tending towards the same end, Suffragists as individuals are to be found taking a prominent part, though Suffrage organisations, as such, cannot of course be officially represented, having been founded specifically for the purpose of winning the woman's vote. But it is profoundly significant that this war, the first great war to be fought since the Woman's Movement became a living part of the nation's life, should be marked by this growing determination on the part of all thinking people that the next Peace Settlement, whenever it is made, shall bear no resemblance to the patched-up treaties of the past. The *New Statesman*, expressing strong disapproval of the International Women's Congress, which, it remarks, may coincide with a critical phase of the war, says that the ability

TO LONDON READERS

COME TO THE

ESSEX HALL

(Essex Street, Strand, W.C.)

To-day (THURSDAY) at 8 p.m.

TO HEAR
Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky, Mr. Stacy Aumonier, Mr. John Scurr and others.

Admission Free. Reserved Seats 1/.

of women from the Allied countries to meet in amicable conference with German women, under such circumstances, implies an aloofness from national sentiment which must . . . profoundly restrict the influence of those who feel and exhibit it. We do not as a rule believe very much in alleged distinctions between men and women. But we rather think that the *New Statesman* does here voice one such distinction. It is possible that men would not be capable of this "aloofness." Because women are capable of it—they would call it by another name—they might help men to make a better job (if they had the political power) of settling international differences than men alone have so far been able to make.

Employment of School Children

The present controversy regarding child labour in agriculture—which in some districts is already a regrettable fact—gives point to a recent report prepared by the Plymouth Education Authority on Wage-earning School Children. Here, for instance, are some of the descriptions given of children who are employed out of school hours:—
"Suffering from tuberculosis, and minding a baby"; "excluded from school for plithis brought on by delivering milk in all weathers without overcoat protection, but now at school and delivering milk again"; "crippled"; "anemic with tubercular tendency"; "had pneumonia, lost voice through exposure"; "very delicate."
And so on. It seems there is a good deal of fighting still to be done in the longest war of all!

Obituary

Casualties of war and of peace have thrown the shadow of death over the last few days with even more intensity than usual. In Mrs. Jacob

Bright a veteran pioneer has passed away who will be remembered chiefly for the work she did with Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy in connection with the Married Women's Property Act, and for the share she took in Mrs. Josephine Butler's campaign against the Contagious Diseases Acts. The war has also claimed its toll of non-combatants this week in the death, from fever, of two more nurses in Serbia—Miss Neil Fraser, the golf champion, and Miss Louisa Jordan, both members of the hospital unit sent out by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies. The death of these two brave women at their post serves to remind us of the risks run by all the nurses who go out to the front to repair the awful ravages of war.

Items of Interest

The separation allowances for children of sailors have been nearly doubled. They are now four shillings for the first child, three for the second, two for the third, and one for the fourth and subsequent children—little enough, it is true, in the face of increased prices, but princely in comparison with the former scandalous rates, starting with a maximum of two shillings.

Endell Street Workhouse, with accommodation for 550 beds, has been assigned by the War Office to Dr. Louisa Garrett Anderson and Dr. Flora Murray for the hospital for wounded soldiers to be managed by them. The necessary alterations are being made, and it will probably be opened at the end of April.

Another step forward has been taken in two American States, where Presidential Suffrage, similar to that possessed by women in Illinois, is now a possibility. Both in Indiana and in Vermont the proposition has passed the Senate and is now before the House.

"I rather think Mrs. Pankhurst was the ace of trumps," says Mrs. Gossip in the *Daily Sketch*, referring to the large audience that gathered in the Steinway Hall at a war emergency entertainment at which Mrs. Pankhurst spoke. Mrs. Pankhurst also spoke nightly last week at the London Pavilion, and had an enthusiastic reception from a crowded house. A good account appears in the *Weekly Dispatch*.

In connection with the occupations depicted by our cartoonist this week, which are now being undertaken by women in consequence of the war, we may mention the employment of women servants in the Athenaeum Club, the rush for women gardeners described by an official of the Women's Horticultural Union at a meeting on Monday, and the two or three hundred scholarships offered by the Board of Agriculture to women ready to take up milking. Our only anxiety, while we welcome these new opportunities for women, is lest the wages offered should be less than those paid to men for the same work.

TO HELP THE U.S. WOMEN'S CLUB

To raise funds for the U.S. Women's Club, Southwark, Miss Mary Neal is getting up an interesting entertainment in the Parish Hall, 60, Paddington Street, High Street, Marylebone (near Baker Street Station), on Friday, March 26, at 8.30 p.m. There will be morris dances, country dances, children's singing games and folk songs, performed by the children and girl members of the Espérance Club. Tickets (2s., 1s., and 6d.) are to be obtained from Miss Mary Neal, 50, Cumberland Market, N.W., and the proceeds will be entirely devoted to the Southwark Club, which was started by the United Suffragists, last autumn, as a meeting ground for women who want to help one another through the present difficult time. Miss Evelyn Sharp will make a short speech on the Club, in the interval between the two parts of the concert.

Miss Mary Neal's troupe of dancers gave a performance in one of the Queen's workrooms at Islington last week, and brought real merriment and happiness for a while to many women whose men are at the front.

Articles and News contributed for insertion in *VOTES FOR WOMEN* should be sent to The Editors, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C., at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper.

The Editors cannot hold themselves in any way responsible for the return of unused manuscripts, though they will endeavour as far as possible to return them when requested if stamps for postage are enclosed. MSS. should, if possible, be typewritten.

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VOTES FOR WOMEN

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Telegraphic Address:—Votfowom, Fleet, London.
Telephone:—Holborn 5880 (2 lines).

FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 1915.

WHY WE MARCH UNDER TWO FLAGS

Wars may come and wars may go, but criticism of woman goes on for ever. Whether women are grave or gay, whether they ask for a vote or a new-fashioned skirt, whether they offer you a pamphlet or a white feather, "criticism as usual" marks the attitude of a certain portion of the public towards them, and, like the little girl in the nursery rhyme, the woman who vainly tries to please is left lamenting—

"Whatever I do, whatever I say,
Aunt Tabitha says 'That isn't the way!'"

In the dim and distant past—we refer to the period that preceded last August—it was the serious woman whom Aunt Tabitha rebuked, the woman who enlisted as a soldier in the longest war of all and left her home to try and make the world a cleaner place for her baby to inherit. The frivolous woman, who left her home to go and dally with the dressmaker, was never called unwomanly. At worst, she was told indulgently that she proved the superiority of man; at best, she was commended for supporting trade. Then the war broke out, and Aunt Tabitha's sense of values received a slight shock. It was a little difficult, in fact, to go on saying that woman's place was the home when it was so obviously expedient that her place should be the hospital. Still, Aunt Tabitha did her best to put up a fight for the dear old ideals of yester-year; and the woman who wanted to carry on the work of the country in the men's absence by being a van driver, or a tram conductor, or a postman, or a farm labourer, was promptly told to go home and knit, and never to be seen out walking unless she was accompanied by a man in khaki.

And now, after nearly eight months of war, we find Aunt Tabitha shrieking as loudly as ever "No, no! That *isn't* the way!" But this time it is not the woman who takes life seriously to whom she addresses her age-old rebuke in the columns of the Yellow Press. For after eight months of war, Aunt Tabitha's standard of values has been completely upset. To-day, even the Yellow Press has discovered that it does not pay to pillory the woman who takes life seriously; and the old familiar tribe of anonymous newspaper correspondents, who used to denounce the Suffragists as Menads and neuropaths, are now lashing themselves into a state of fury over the woman whom they once thought womanly, the woman who supports trade by ordering a new wide skirt instead of wearing last year's narrow one, and who flirts shamelessly with every soldier she meets, the woman who has, in fact, been bred by the very censors who now hold her up to rebuke.

We are not concerned here with the psychology of the new fashions in dress. We are not concerned with the state of mind of the worthy Member of Parliament who wanted to know if the Home Secretary could not take steps to prevent young women from offering white feathers to patriotic but physically unfit young men. And we do not care a button what people, who have not the pluck to sign their names, choose to say about women in any morning paper. But the significance of Aunt Tabitha's altered tune does interest us; for there are still, we believe, some excellent people who doubt our wisdom in continuing to fly the Suffrage flag at a moment when, one and all, we are marching under our country's flag, who doubt our patriotism in trying, while brave men are dying for our country, to make that country worth dying for. We would refer these doubting friends of ours to these recent utterances in the Press, which, if they mean anything at all, must mean the downfall of the after-time "womanly" woman and the triumph of her sister, once the Menad and the home-breaker. If we did not hesitate to use so unseemly an expression in such a connection, we should call the recent correspondence in the *Times* Aunt Tabitha's last kick.

And we cannot fail to attribute this satisfactory change of front at least partly to the Suffrage campaign which has been maintained throughout the war, and to the successful resistance offered by Suffragists to threatened encroachments on women's liberties. The numbers of men who attend what suffrage meetings are now held is one evidence that Suffragists are being taken seriously by them in their efforts to protect their less fortunate sisters and to make the world a better place both for men and women. There are other evidences, too. We know of at least one military hospital where *VOTES FOR WOMEN* is eagerly looked for and read by the disabled Tommies; and only last week, women who were selling this paper in the streets were cheered by wounded soldiers who drove by.

After eight months of war we are left with much to mourn, much that is too sacred to mention. We have known sorrows too deep for words and horrors too terrible to describe. If out of all this is born a better understanding between men and women, we may perhaps feel, very humbly, that we have at least partly justified our determination to go forward still, to go on fighting under two flags—the flags of our country and our cause. When the fishermen of the North Sea go out to risk their lives for the nation's food, they sing the hymn—

"Count your blessings, count your blessings,
One by one; one by one!
You'd be surprised to hear the things the
Lord hath done!"

We quote this, as the men sing it, in all reverence. For as we try for a moment to forget the tragedies and to count only the blessings of the last eight months, as we think of slandered soldiers' wives restored to high esteem, of women, at first rejected, who are now van drivers and tram conductors and telegraph messengers, of women astronomers accepted as Fellows, of women doctors recognised by the War Office—we know that all these things, some of them trivial in themselves, spell victory for an army whose soldiers aspire to be in deed and in name soldiers of the Lord.

THE GIRL GUIDE MOVEMENT

By Marion Chadwick

One of the greatest difficulties with which we Suffragists have to contend lies in the apathy and restricted outlook of many women, especially those who are little favoured by fortune. This is due to the traditional system of education, by which a dual standard is carefully fostered. It begins in elementary schools and the home. We find that boys are taught from an early age to exercise their minds and bodies in outdoor games, carpentering, and other handicrafts, whilst sewing, a little cooking, and care of their persons is thought sufficient for girls. Consequently, one side of the girl's nature is quite undeveloped, and supposed not to exist. It is hard to imagine anything more dull and deadening than the life of the average girl in the working and lower middle classes. Unlike her brother, she is not asked to be resourceful, or to use her mind and muscles except in the one dreary round. What is worse, the same appeal is not made to her higher nature. If she is mean and ungenerous, why, she is only a girl—what more can be expected of her! What wonder if in later years she cannot raise her eyes to the duties of citizenship when her horizon is limited to the petty round of domestic work, unintelligently performed, and relieved only by the pleasures of dress and flirtations!

Girls in other classes have a much better chance, for in modern schools they are trained in responsibility and co-operation by means of organized games and a variety of occupations. A strict sense of honour is also inculcated, and we see the result in a rising generation of public-spirited and efficient young women. Girls who live in the country also share the pursuits of their brothers, excel in outdoor sports, and learn the habits of animals and plants, by which their faculties and interests are stimulated.

The Girl Guide organization has been started with the object of giving to girls in the poorer ranks of society some of the advantages enjoyed by their wealthier sisters. We have seen how the Boy Scout movement has raised the standard of conduct and intelligence amongst boys, and we have every reason to believe that by the same methods the same results may be attained amongst girls. It is certainly in the spirit of the women's movement that boys and girls should be banded together, acknowledging the same ideals, saluting the same flag, and saluting each other as equals. The Boy Scout movement is a recognized feature of our social system, and has extended over the whole world, whereas that of the Girl Guides is still in its infancy; but it is growing rapidly, and will, I am convinced, become an important factor in the future development of the woman citizen. Some opposition has still to be overcome. On the one hand, we are accused of wanting to turn girls into boys by interesting them in the same pursuits; on the other hand, there are some objectors who forget the hard facts of woman's life, and wish all purely domestic subjects to be eliminated. We must certainly be on our guard against any tendency to use the Girl Guide organization as a school for mothers or domestic servants. This is, or ought to be, the function of the ordinary schools. But though we do not underrate the importance of such teaching, we have a wider ambition for the Girl Guides. We wish to teach them honour, kindness, truthfulness, resourcefulness, and every form of healthy activity, to cultivate their powers of observation; in short, to make of them all-round human beings. Further, we wish to instil the consciousness that they are not doing this merely for their own advantage and amusement, but that they may be prepared to serve their King and country when and where this may be needful.

The Girl Guides are organized exactly on the

same lines as the Boy Scouts. Of course, amongst the subjects for which they obtain badges there are some in which it is easier for girls to attain proficiency than for boys—such as cooking, needlework, home nursing, &c. Very special attention should therefore be given to those in which the boys have a natural advantage, so as to bring out new sides of the girls' nature. Amongst these I may mention signalling, carpentering, scouting, and everything that cultivates general handiness and alertness of vision. These subjects are also particularly popular. The summer camp is the culminating point of the year for the town girls, for they can put their training into practice. They have opportunity then for camp cooking, signalling, scouting, and live in the open air under primitive, healthy conditions. Naturally, the subjects in which girls can qualify themselves must vary according to the circumstances of town or country. It is difficult for town girls to become expert in gardening, scouting, and horsemanship; but signalling, first aid, and carpentering can be done anywhere. In some places they are taken to the local fire brigade station to learn the action they should take in the case of fire. Local doctors also give them instructions in elementary ambulance

work, and they are very proud of their white haversacks stuffed with implements and bandages. If they can get an empty clubroom the girls are set to paint and paper it, and make minor repairs. So in every way we try to extend their interests and capacities, and the weekly gathering for training and physical drill is often the most interesting event of the week for the working girl.

The military forms of the organization are an added power. Human nature needs symbols for its ideals, and these forms express the spirit of willing obedience to chosen leaders which is the essence of self-discipline. Each badge of proficiency which a girl can fasten to her sleeve increases her self-respect, and she is proud if her company distinguishes itself in smartness and efficiency.

The duties of a captain are exacting, but it is repaying work. If she wins this affection of her girls by sympathy and firmness, they will do anything for her, and respond gladly to her moral influence. There is no lack of girls who are anxious to join, but now there is urgent need for educated women who are ready to qualify themselves as officers, and give their time to this task, the value of which for the rising generation of girls cannot be overrated.

CORRESPONDENCE

CHILD LABOUR

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.

Dear Editors,—In your editorial of March 5 you deplored the fact that the Government withdrew the Bill raising the school age to 15. But what did that Bill mean? Not that the men of the country were going to shoulder the burden of the extra year's maintenance, but that the mothers were to be forced to screw it out of their own food and that of the younger children. Neither law nor custom constrains a husband to increase the house-keeping allowance, whatever additional expenses are imposed by the law. Consequently, no one can study the weekly budgets of poor women without seeing that Parliament itself is largely responsible for the defective nutrition of schoolchildren. Take, for example, the following case. A boy, scheduled as mentally defective, was ordered back to a special school, though his mother had found a job for him at 8s. a week. Mrs. P—— was better off than many, inasmuch as she had a steady husband in regular work, got her 25s. weekly, and had a daughter at work who gave her 7s. There were in all ten children. She estimated her expenditure as follows:—

	s. d.
Rent	7 0 (exceptionally low)
Coal	2 6 (1½ cwt.)
Insurance	2 1
Boots	1 6 (weekly average)
Soap, soda, &c.	1 0
Gas	0 7 (at least)
	<hr/>
	14 8

The cost of the actual food consumed by her husband could not be reckoned as less than 5s. weekly. This left her with 12s. 4d. to provide food for eleven people and clothing for ten. The girl in work clothed herself. In this case, as in countless others, the man could not give more. He earned only 28s. In other cases the men will not give more, and the wife has no power to compel them. Therefore the increased expenditure is demanded is only obtained at the cost of its mother and younger brothers and sisters. The position I hope to see women take up is this: By all means let everything possible be done for the rising generation, but let us get rid of *humbug*. In every Bill which raises the cost of child-rearing, let a clause be inserted which shall either make the father actually, instead of nominally, responsible for any additional expense, or allow the mother to claim the amount from some public body. The men of the country defend their monopoly of all the paying trades of the country by declaring that they have to support

the children. So be it. If they will not compel, or enable, each other to fulfil their duty as fathers, they must collectively discharge it as ratepayers or as taxpayers. Child legislation must then, perhaps, begin to do a little good.—Yours, &c., ANNA MARTIN.

[We entirely agree with our correspondent—and are usually careful to emphasize the fact—that the problem of child labour cannot be tackled without reference to other problems, most of them consequent upon the subjection of woman. That is why we place Suffrage first among reforms.—Editors *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.]

SUFFRAGE SECOND?

To the Editors of *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.

Dear Editors,—"Matron's" question raises the wider feminist issues. We women could, if properly organised, "take" everything we want—except the vote. Why do we not? The reason is the whole Woman Movement in England is held up because we have too long concentrated our funds and organizations on the one thing that we cannot "take." Why in regard to so many other serious grievances, are so many Suffragists content to remain like a woman on the top of a stile screaming for a man to help her down? Those Suffragists, whole bodies of them, who have deserted the Woman's Cause to compete with tens of thousands of other eager women in coddling soldiers—sick and well—find they can get off the stile quickly enough when men call for help! Why not for women?

We could deal with the illegitimacy and other sex problems ourselves; we could easily break up the existing sex monopolies if we organised for the purpose. Why not leave men to look after themselves and devote ourselves to looking after our own sex, instead of slanging men for failing to do this? *Th* vote may be withheld for an indefinite time. It is a politically dead issue, pro tem. There are more immediate and urgent problems to which we should direct our energies. Is not this the moment to give the Movement a wider outlook, and a new social impetus to attract to it women who are indifferent to the Suffrage because they do not realise the wider issues involved?

I believe this would put us in a better position to resume the political struggle after the war. Until women support women, on principle, and in sufficient numbers, men will neither believe in our sincerity nor be brought to realise the injustices and cruelties of this world, ruled as it is by the hominist mania.—Yours, &c., GWYNNEH CHAPMAN.

[We gladly publish this clear statement of the case for the Anti-Suffrage feminist, but need hardly say that we disagree totally that in demanding the vote we are weakly calling for the help of men (there are too many men Suffragists and women "Antis" for this to be true), or that to go on working for a reform without which other reforms cannot be guaranteed is to take a narrow view of the Woman's Movement.—Editors, *VOTES FOR WOMEN*.]

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Edited by SYLVIA PANKHURST.

The Working Women's Suffrage Paper.

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321, Roman Road, Bow; International Suffrage Shop, 5, Duke Street, Adelphi, W.C.; London and Suburban Publishing Co., St. Bride's Church-yard, E.C.; Messrs. Horace Marshall and Co., Temple Avenue, E.C.; Messrs. W. H. Smith's and Sons and Messrs. Willing's Bookstalls.

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THREE GREAT MEETINGS
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The Rev. Richard Roberts The Rt. Rev. The Lord Bishop of Lincoln
Miss Eleanore Jobb
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An Excellent Way

Miss Leticia Fox writes: "As I am unable to do much in the way of paper-selling, I have been saving sixpences this year in order to pay for the showing of VOTES FOR WOMEN posters. I have just changed the first fifty, and am enclosing postal orders for 25s."

This is an admirable substitute for paper-selling; and we appeal to all who want to help VOTES FOR WOMEN, but are not strong enough to stand in the street to sell it, to follow Miss Fox's example of self-denial and collect the amount necessary for showing a poster for one year.

Three New Posters Wanted!

We make this appeal the more urgently because the opening of three new stations on the Bakerloo Tube has made us ambitious of securing a good place in each of them for our weekly poster. Who will send us 25s. for one of the following stations, offering to inspect it also, if possible?—Warwick Avenue, Queen's Park, and Kilburn Park.

Our next list of new poster inspectors will be published next week.

A New Paper-seller

This is another letter of the kind we like to receive: "I am at present resident in B., where my husband is in command of a cyclist company. So far I have not seen anyone selling VOTES FOR WOMEN, and shall be more than glad to do so."

And here is one more from a correspondent at Bradford Farm, Queenstown, South Africa: "Will you kindly forward me your paper? I am very interested in our cause, and would like to promote and help out here as much as I can. I have already interested some influential farmers' wives in this district, and feel sure, with some good literature, I could help considerably." Letters like these are a great encouragement

to us in our difficult task of keeping the Suffrage Flag flying at all costs during the war.

The Convinced Suffragist

We occasionally receive letters from readers, proposing to cease their subscriptions to VOTES FOR WOMEN on the ground that they are "convinced" and do not need to read it any longer. There are two errors in such a decision. Firstly, those who are themselves convinced should spread the light to others by taking as many copies of the paper as possible and sending it to those who are not convinced, thus incidentally helping the United Suffragists to maintain their organ in the difficult period of the war. And secondly, to be convinced is not necessarily to be exhaustively informed. There is always much to learn about the Woman's Movement, and VOTES FOR WOMEN is the paper which contains the information.

TWO THINGS TO DO!

1. Join the United Suffragists.

(By sending your name to the Hon. Sec., U.S., 3, Adam St., London, W.C. No subscription needed.)

2. Take in "Votes for Women."

(By filling in the subscription form on Page 202 and forwarding it as directed.)

AN AMERICAN JEST

Little Jack Horner sat in a corner
Eating political pie;
He put in his thumb and pulled out a plum,
And said, "What a big boy am I!"
Poor little Mary (not really contrary)
Had a good right to look glum—
Why should Jack Horner in pies have a corner
And poor little Mary have none?
—Woman's Journal.



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COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS

LIGHT SENTENCES
Offence Against a Baby
The Yorkshire Weekly Post (March 13) reports case of a labourer aged 22, charged before Mr. Justice Coleridge at the Yorkshire Assizes with an indecent offence against a baby girl aged 3½.
Sentence: Two years' hard labour.

HEAVY SENTENCES
Burglary
The Morning Advertiser (March 3) reports case of two firemen and a groom, charged at the London Sessions before Mr. Allan Lawrie with burglary in two houses, when property worth £60 and £80 respectively was taken. There were previous convictions.
Sentence: The two firemen to five years' penal servitude and three years' penal servitude respectively, (with eight years' preventive detention as well, in one case), and the groom, who had 12 months to serve on ticket of leave, to one day's imprisonment.

Assault on a Wife
The Morning Advertiser (March 10) reports case of a labourer charged at the South-west London Police Court before Mr. Lister Drummond with assaulting his wife. She remonstrated with him for flirting with a neighbour upstairs, and he threatened to kill her, and struck her a heavy blow on the ear. She said he had assaulted her before, and she was afraid to go home.
Sentence: One month's imprisonment.

Petty Theft
The Morning Advertiser (March 9) reports case of a man charged before Sir C. Wakefield at the Guildhall with stealing a walking-stick, value 1s. 6d. There were previous convictions, and he was also charged under the Prevention of Crimes Act. He pleaded that his wife was seriously ill, and his son had been wounded at the front.
Sentence: Twelve months' hard labour.

Cruelty to a Horse
The Daily Mail (March 9) reports case of a labourer charged at Norwich Police Court with cruelty to a horse. He held on to its tongue, and when it reared, five inches of the tongue was torn off.
Sentence: Fine of £2.

Theft
The Warwickshire Times (March 13) reports case of a polisher and his wife (who was discharged, indicted at the Warwickshire Assizes for stealing three scarves and one cotton shirt. There were previous convictions, which he said were for paltry offences committed under the influence of drink.
Sentence: Twelve months' hard labour.

OUR POINT OF VIEW

Let us be misunderstood, it would be as well, perhaps, to state afresh what our object is in comparing punishments in this column, week by week. We are not clamouring for heavier sentences all round; we are not advocating heavy sentences, as such, for any kind of offence. The whole penal system seems to us to be in urgent need of reform, though of adequate reform we have very little hope while women remain unfranchised. But what we seek to point out in our table of punishments is the present disproportion shown in the sentences given respectively for offences against the person and for offences against property. In an ideal State, punishments in the former instances would be far more severe than in the latter. As things are, criminals are almost invariably sentenced more heavily for burglary, petty theft, forgery, obtaining money or goods by false pretences, than for wife-beating, attempted murder, cruelty to animals, indecent and criminal assaults on children and girls. We maintain that this standard of punishments needs re-adjusting so that the more severe sentences, whatever they may be, should be imposed on those offenders who are guilty of the latter class of offence.

that is rarely taken with an offender who has stolen or forged. So that the dice would appear to be heavily loaded against women and girls, both custom and penal code holding them, as a rule, of less account than senseless property. It is therefore with real satisfaction that we note a growing tendency on the Bench to break down this bad standard of values, a tendency shown in cases given by us in the last two issues of VOTES FOR WOMEN and in the case at the Yorkshire Assizes cited above.
But, as we said before, we have no real hope that any definite universal improvement will be shown until women are enfranchised and their persons held of real account.

CASUALTIES OF PEACE

A question asked in the House of Commons by Mr. Rowlands, M.P., on March 11 reminds us that there are casualties of peace as well as of war, and enemies to be guarded against at home as well as abroad. It concerned a young girl, engaged in the manufacture of aeroplanes at the Crayford Works, who died of dope (varnish) poisoning on February 28, and Mr. Rowlands, mentioning that forty-three of the girls had been found to be affected by the fumes last December, wanted to know whether the system of ventilation required by the Home Office to prevent dope poisoning had failed, and whether "any further steps have been taken to insure the absolute safety of the health and lives of the young women employed on varnishing with dope?"
Mr. Cecil Harmsworth (Under-Secretary) replied that "poisoning from the dope is gradual," that the new system of ventilation, which is regarded as satisfactory by the Department, did not come into force until the latter half of January, and the girl, who left on February 3, must therefore have absorbed the fatal poison before that date. All very accurate, no doubt, and a more or less technical absolution of those in authority; but it is impossible to avoid the reflection that if human life mattered as much as property in this country no woman (or man) would have been in the position, even before the latter half of January,

to die a lingering death through doing the work by which she earned her livelihood. The aeroplanes she helped to varnish will be responsible, probably, for many deaths at the front before the war is over. But their first victim was the young girl who has gone to swell the long list of industrial casualties that mark our daily life whether the country is at peace or war.

LICENSED VEHICLE WORKERS AND U.S.

A speaker from the United Suffragists was asked on Thursday last to address the members of the London and Provincial Union of Licensed Vehicle Workers, who have been locked out by the National Steam Omnibus Company, and had a large and sympathetic audience, keenly interested in the relation of Woman Suffrage to the Labour Movement. She was followed by members of the Union's Executive Committee, who, though speaking on matters more closely connected with their own immediate struggle, each took the opportunity of paying their tribute to the women's fight for freedom. The help given by suffrage workers during the great dock strike was gratefully recalled, and, referring to the woman's power of upholding a matter of principle, one speaker declared he would rather have two women to picket than four hundred National "busmen—surely a pardonable exaggeration! Mention was made, too, of the introduction of women motor-drivers, with the statement that no attempt would be made to boycott these workers, but that they would be taken into the men's unions and helped to obtain equality of treatment. Altogether it was most gratifying to get this assurance of the organised workers' understanding of our aims and methods.

WALES—OR WOMAN?

The Daily News said in its leading article last Monday: "If the assertion of the rights of little nations be the ideal which inspires Liberals in their support of the war, the least that we can expect is that the Government should not even seem to ignore the voice of Wales at home." How often have we not said the same—substituting "Woman" for "Wales"!

"A MID-LENT FESTIVAL"

To aid various enterprises which they have undertaken during the war, the Women's Freedom League held a delightfully arranged Café Chantant at the Caxton Hall on Thursday and Friday in last week. Stalls were taken by many of the Suffrage societies, including the United Suffragists, and the friendly co-operation added much to the general enjoyment. Miss Brewster presided over the U.S. stall, which attracted much attention.

Mrs. Despard opened the proceedings on Thursday, receiving an enthusiastic reception, and Miss Eunice Murray acted as deputy for Miss Lena Ashwell, who was unable to attend on Friday. An entertaining programme of songs and selections, rendered by a quartette composed of women musicians, apart from the various side-show entertainments which were arranged by the Actresses' Franchise League, helped to carry out Mrs. Despard's suggestion that this opportunity could be made a mid-Lent festival despite the gloom of the present situation.

COMING EVENTS

The Forward Cymric Suffrage Union will hold a meeting in Hyde Park (near the Marble Arch) on Sunday, March 21, at 3 p.m.

Three public meetings will be held at the Central Hall, Westminster, on Monday, March 22, at 11 a.m., 2.30 and 6 p.m. "The Religious Aspect of the Women's Movement in Relation to War and Peace" will be discussed. Chair: The Rev. W. Temple. Speakers: The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of

Lincoln, H. W. Nevinnson, Esq., Miss Maude Royden, Mrs. Bruce Glasier, and others.

The New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage will hold a Public Meeting at the Knightsbridge Hotel on Tuesday, March 23, at 3 p.m. Mr. W. L. George will speak on "The War in France and Belgium," and the prospects.

The Women's Freedom League will hold a Public Meeting at the Suffrage Club, York Street, on Wednesday, March 24, at 3.30 p.m. (last of present series). Speakers: The Rev. C. Baumgarten, on "Ideals of Social Government," and Mrs. Mustard. The new series will commence on April 14.

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SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORWARD CYMRIC SUFFRAGE UNION. A sale of plain and fancy work, comforts for soldiers, sweets, cakes, &c., will be held on Tuesday, March 23, 2.30 to 7, at 33, Morpeth Mansions, Westminster, by invitation of Miss Norbury. Entrance free. Tea 6d. Proceeds for funds of F.C.S.U. Donations of money and goods for sale earnestly requested. Please send at once to Mrs. Mansell-Moullin, Hon. Sec. F.C.S.U., 69, Wimpole Street, London.

FORWARD CYMRIC SUFFRAGE UNION will hold a meeting in Hyde Park (near the Marble Arch), next Sunday at 3. "The Red Dragon leads the way!"

JUJITSU DISPLAY.—Tickets free on application, stamp. March 12, 8 p.m. Trial lesson any time free.—31, Golden Square, Regent Street, W.

NEW CONSTITUTIONAL SOCIETY FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE Meeting at the Knightsbridge Hotel, Tuesday, March 23, at 3 o'clock. Mr. W. L. George will speak on "The War in France and Belgium, and the Prospects." Tickets, 2s. 6d. and 1s., can be obtained from the Secretary, 8, Park Mansions Arcade, Knightsbridge.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE holds public meetings at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, Jermy Street, Piccadilly, each Wednesday afternoon at 3.30. Speakers, March 24, Rev. C. Baumgarten, "Ideals of Social Government," and Mrs. Mustard. Admission free. This will be the last meeting of the present series. New series will commence April 14.

WHITE ROSE WAR CLUBS FOR WOMEN. Dear fellow workers, I am opening and financing two White Rose Clubs for the Patriotic War Clubs. It is my earnest wish to continue to keep the Suffrage Flag flying, and hold monthly meetings. The first new club will accommodate over 200 sitting. The rent is secure, but I need much help—a piano, a carpet or big rug for crèche room, bright pictures, easy chairs, books. I shall be most grateful for donations towards upkeep. 137, High Street, Notting Hill Gate, opens March 25; Chiswick in April. Every hour we see the urgent necessity of the vote. Will 20 people guarantee me even 1s. weekly? Offers of Suffrage speakers welcomed. Flora Ames.—Address Warden, Miss Douglas, 23, St. Ann's Villas, Holland Park.

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ABSOLUTE Privacy, Quietude, and Refinement, no extras. At the Strand Imperial Hotel, opposite Gaiety Theatre, ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters; sumptuous bedroom, with h. and c. water fitted; breakfast, bath, attendance, and lights, from 5s. 6d.; en pension 9s.; special terms for long stay; finest English provisions.—Manageress, 4788 Gerrard.

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BOOKS

SPECIAL PURCHASE.—Mrs. Perkins Gilman's "Man-Made World," and "What Diantha Did." New copies 4s. 6d. each, limited number offered 2s., by post 2s. 4d.—The International Suffrage Shop, 5, Duke Street, Charing Cross, London, W.C.

64-PAGE BOOK about HERBS and HOW TO USE THEM, free. Send for one.—Trimmell, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond Road, Cardiff. Published 1879.

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SUPERIOR person, age 37, desires situation good plain cook or cook-housekeeper; daily or otherwise; from £26.—M. B., VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street.

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