

# The War Paper for Women

# VOTES FOR WOMEN

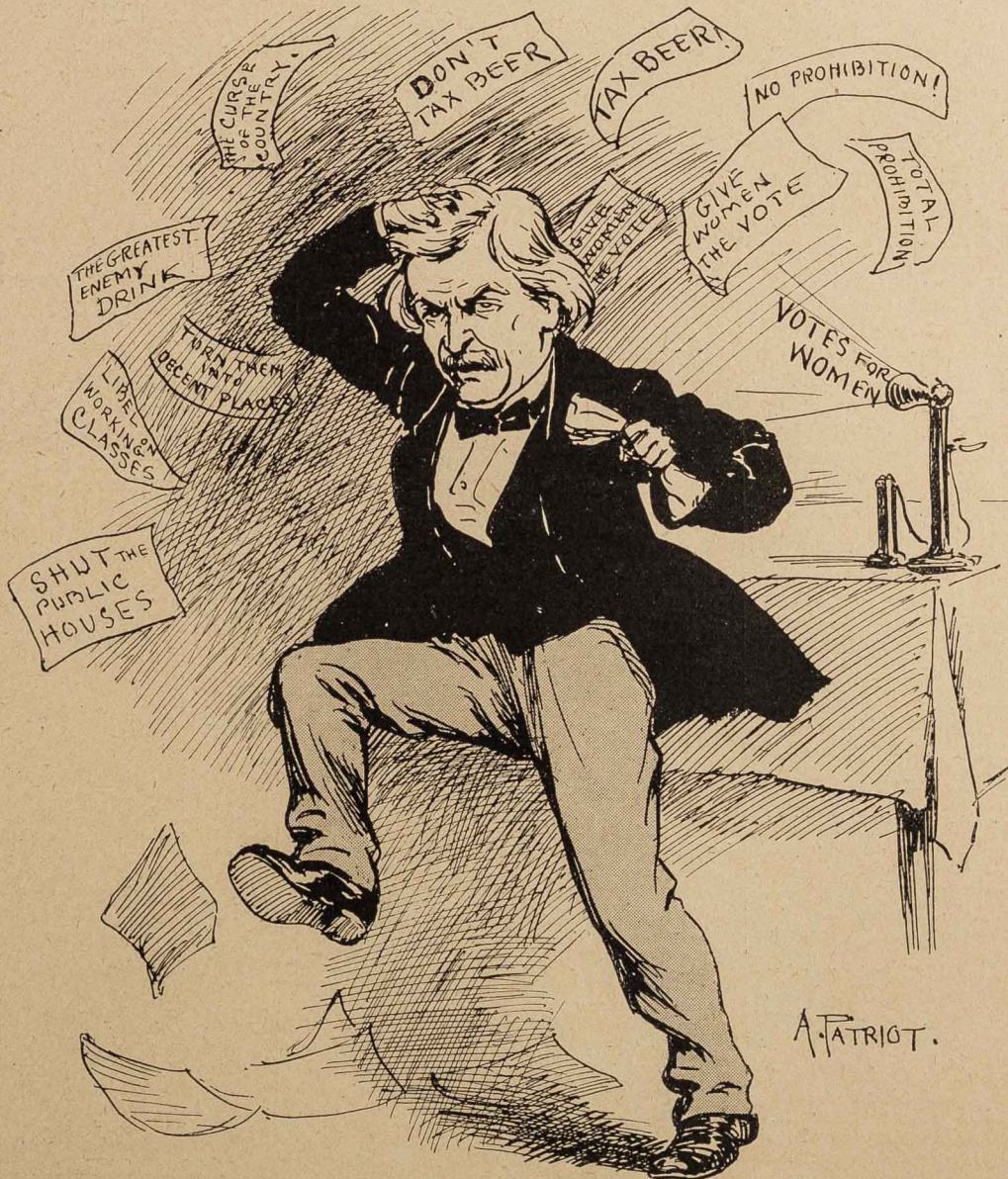
OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

VOL. VIII. (Third Series), No. 374.

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1915.

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## THE LURE OF DRINK



MR. LLOYD GEORGE: "Why did I kill the Conciliation Bill? The women might have helped me now!"



Subscriptions to the paper should be sent to The Publisher, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

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The paper can be obtained from all newspapers and bookstalls. In New York, at Brentano's; Messrs. Thacker, Spink, and Co., Calcutta; and at Handel House, Ltd., Eloff Street, Johannesburg.

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W. CLARKE & SON'S Celebrated Coals. ALL RELIABLE QUALITIES!! 95, QUEEN'S ROAD, Bayswater, W. ESTABLISHED 1842. Telephone: 3565 PARK.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, YORK STREET, for MEN and WOMEN. During the War, subscription reduced to One Guinea and no entrance fee. MEETINGS: Tues. May 11th, 8 p.m.—Lady Frances Balfour (Chair: Mrs. Auerbach). Wed. May 12th, 3.30—Mrs. Ackeroyd (W.F.L.). Fri. May 14th, 3.30—Mrs. Cecil Chapman (New Con. Sec.). The Tariff at this Club, instead of rising with the War, is being lowered. Note the present 1/- Lunch—Soup, Joint, TWO VEGETABLES, BREAD, SWEET OF CHEESE. Test it at the BEST SHILLING LUNCH IN LONDON.

EAST LONDON FEDERATION OF THE SUFFRAGETTES will hold a WOMEN'S EXHIBITION in the CAXTON HALL, WESTMINSTER, MAY 10th, 11th, and 12th, 3 to 10 p.m. Including Toy Making Exhibit. Arranged by the E.L.F.S. Sweated Industries Exhibit. Arranged by Dr. TCHAYKOVSKY. Speeches, Music, Entertainments.

Stall Holders include E.L.F.S., Actresses' Franchise League, United Suffragists, Forward Cymric Suffrage Union, Women's Freedom League, Church League, Free Church League, Catholic Women's Suffrage Society, Women Teachers' Franchise Union, from whom Tickets of Admission may be obtained—Price 1s.; after 6 p.m. 6d. Season Ticket 2s. 6d.

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INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB, 5, GRAFTON STREET, PICCADILLY, W. FOR MEN AND WOMEN. MEETINGS: Wed. May 12th, 8 p.m.—On "Serbian Women." M. Chedomille Miyatovich (Ancien Ministre de Serbie près la Cour de St. James). Chairman: Mrs. Cecil Chapman. SUBSCRIPTIONS (entrance fee suspended): London Members (Residents within 15 miles of Charing Cross) per annum One Guinea. Country Members (England and Wales) per annum One Guinea. Country Members (Ireland and Scotland) per annum 10s. 6d. Foreign Members (Residents abroad) per annum 10s. 6d. Valuable Lending and Reference Library for Members. Non-members enrolled as Associates by paying 5s. 6d. per annum. Luncheons, 1s. & 1s. 6d. Dinners, 1s. & 1s. 9d. All particulars—SECRETARY. Tel.: 3932 Mayfair.

THE HERALD. (Weekly successor to the "Daily Herald.")

WHAT ARE THE MINIMUM CONDITIONS OF PEACE WE SHOULD EXPECT FROM GERMANY? This question is answered by Bernard Shaw, H. G. Wells, Arnold Bennett, H. W. Nevinson, George Lansbury, Ramsay MacDonald, and others.

THE HERALD. (Weekly successor to the "Daily Herald.")

The Number will also contain the report of the Woman's Peace Conference at The Hague, and the Frenchwomen's Manifesto to that gathering.

THE HERALD. One Penny. EVERY FRIDAY. One Penny.

VOTES FOR WOMEN

4-7, RED LION COURT, FLEET STREET. Telegraphic Address:—Votfowom, Fleet, London. Telephone:—Holborn 5880 (2 lines).

FRIDAY, MAY 7, 1915.

LEST WE FORGET!

People often ask what is the duty of women under the awful calamity which has befallen our country in common with the rest of Europe, and in the case of most women the answer is not difficult. Most women have no choice in the matter. They are obliged by the very nature of things to fulfil the duties which lie nearest them—such duties as working for the maintenance of themselves and their families or relations, making or buying food and clothing, washing and dressing and feeding children, teaching them or sending them to school, tending the sick, playing the woman's part in births or deaths, and trying to make the money cover rent and expenses, no matter how much prices may rise. Those are the necessary duties, in which there is no choice and no escape, even if escape is desired. They are essential services to the State, no matter how savagely an Anti-Suffragist State may exclude women from its citizenship. They are the same in peace and war, except that in war they become more difficult to perform. Under invasion or conquest they may become impossible, in which case the State falls to ruin. But for the enormous majority of women in England now the saying, "Business as usual, only more so," is true.

There are, besides, the women—a comparatively small number—to whom a certain amount of choice is possible. Because they are well-to-do, or are supported by other people, or have no "family ties," it is open to them to undertake what is called public service. We deny the distinction, for the duties of working women and working men's wives are just as much public services as any other. But to some women the choice as to voluntary forms of public service is open, and in this country they have taken their opportunity with the energy and devotion that was to be expected of them. In large numbers they have volunteered for any service that was within their capacity or that the Government and War Office would permit. They have nursed the wounded, they have conducted hospitals, they have driven motor-ambulances, they have organised restaurants and homes for soldiers and sailors, they have run clubs for them (and, what is equally important, for their wives), they have given assistance and advice to their "dependants" in trouble or perplexity, they have made enormous quantities of clothing and other "comforts" for the army and the fleet, they have sewed shirts, knitted socks and waistbands, and, finally, supplied in one day more respirators than the troops could require against the enemy's poisonous gas. Such energy and devotion were, as we said, only to be expected from the women of our country by all who knew them. We are not in the least surprised at the zeal, nor need women waste time in applauding or boasting of services that are so obvious. We will only hope that in future the Government will remember and reflect upon all the various public duties fulfilled by all classes of women in the State during this terrible period, and will at last be driven to the conclusion that appears to all of us inevitable.

But when we speak of the Government, we are brought up against the peculiar psychology of

politicians. It is an old saying that there is no gratitude in politics, and it remains painfully true. In politics, if anywhere, gratitude is an expectation of favours to come. Past services go for nothing. The only chance for any cause lies in promised advantage or threatened danger to the politicians concerned. The ministerial tricks and chicaneries of recent years have taught us all that lesson, and we have learnt that, in politics, past benefits are "benefits forgot," and past public services are disregarded as lightly as a politician's word. The stress of war may work some change in the personality and character even of Anti-Suffragist Ministers, and with all our hearts we hope it may. But the present situation raises this further question: apart from the devoted public services of individual members either in the ordinary course of woman's working life or in special undertakings due to the war, what is the duty of a Suffrage Society as such during these times?

It is tempting, as it would be easy, to say that a Suffrage Society's duty is to drop the cause of Woman Suffrage, at least for the time, and re-organise itself as an instrument for relief, hospital work, or recruiting. That would be the easiest, and perhaps the most popular thing to do. A Suffrage Society which acted so would be highly commended for subordinating its particular object to the national demand, and a case might be made out to defend the surrender of its purpose. On lower grounds it would be heartily applauded by all who delight in swimming with the stream, in following the course that is popular and universally approved. To them it is always a relief and relaxation to escape from the ridicule, hostility, and odium which are invariably attached to every pioneer movement in the direction of freedom. No one enjoys ridicule, hostility, or odium. Everybody would much prefer to swim with the stream and do the popular and applauded thing. And so we cannot wonder that, during the nine months since the war began and the United Suffragists undertook the management of this paper, we have sometimes been urged to drop or suspend the cause of Woman Suffrage and adopt some other line of more immediate service, or, at least, of more immediate popularity.

The advice is tempting. There is much to be said for it. But we cannot comply. We shall not comply, because we believe in maintaining the cause of Woman Suffrage as one of the highest national services even in a time like this, or especially in a time like this. We shall not comply, because we know there are hundreds of Anti-Suffragists and half-hearted ex-Suffragists who stand eager to cry at the first sign of surrender: "You see the Suffrage cause is dead!" We know how gladly Ministers and politicians would seize the opportunity of declaring that the movement would trouble them no more. We know how vital it is to the interests of our countrywomen to watch and expose the encroachments continually made upon their liberties because they have no voice in their government. We shall therefore persist in maintaining the cause to the very end of our power and resources; in the first place lest we should betray the trust of those who established our paper or have contributed funds to our Society for the sake of this cause alone; and above all, lest we should betray the trust and frustrate the noble devotion of those who in past years have for this cause alone suffered loss of property and career and friends, or have suffered ignominy, imprisonment, torture, and even death itself. To us they have handed on their cause, and we are not going to play them false. For we feel assured in our hearts that their cause is also in the truest sense our country's.

COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS

LIGHT SENTENCES Assault on a Wife The Morning Advertiser (April 7) reports case of a painter charged before Mr. Biron at Lambeth Police Court with being disorderly and assaulting his wife. When the policeman was called in, he found the wife with her face badly knocked about, and her room looking "like a slaughter-house," with blood all over the floor. He was convicted of aggravated assault. Sentence: Four months' hard labour.

Cruelty to a Horse The Derbyshire Times (February 13) reports case of a cartier charged at the Chesterfield County Petty Sessions with ill-treating a horse which was suffering from extensive ringbone, by using it when he had been ordered not to take it out of the stable. Sentence: Fine of 5s. and costs.

AN INGENUOUS STIPENDIARY

The Stipendiary magistrate at Liverpool has all our sympathy. It must come as a great shock to a dispenser of justice to discover that a British woman married to a Swede who subsequently naturalises himself as an American, has been a Swede, is now an American, and has to register as an alien. So great a surprise was it to him when Mrs. Catharine Bjork, possessing this record, was first brought before him that the Liverpool Stipendiary adjourned the case to have the law looked into. Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN could have told him, of course, of the campaign conducted in these columns against the clause in the Aliens Act of last year, which declared that the wife of an alien should be deemed an alien, and could only recover her nationality (this was a great concession, made in consequence of the Suffragist agitation) if she applied to the Home Office on the death of her husband. The Stipendiary concluded with the ingenious remark, "Now that attention has been called to the matter by this case, perhaps Parliament may alter the law."

We deprecate the use of slang; but, really—we don't think!

TWO STRONG RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were passed unanimously at the annual meeting of the Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage held last week:— (1) "That this meeting of the Men's League draws attention to the statement of Mr. Lloyd George in the House of Commons on the 20th inst., that the Government is considering a proposal for the enfranchisement of all soldiers, and protests against any measure being submitted to Parliament for the extension of the Suffrage which does not include women." (2) "That this meeting, rejoicing that the women of some parts of the British Empire, through the representatives they have elected, are expected to have some voice in the terms of the eventual peace, urges upon the Government the manifest justice of giving the women of the Mother Country a corresponding constitutional right."

THE WOMEN'S CONGRESS

Fifteen countries were represented last week at the Hague, where, in the words of a letter addressed to our Press by the British Women's Committee, a Congress had been called by the women of Holland— "Not with a view to demanding immediate peace, or 'peace at any price,' but with the intention of discussing the basis on which a permanent peace may be established when this war is

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COMING EVENTS

The Women's Freedom League will hold a public meeting at the Suffrage Club, York Street, on Wednesday, May 12, at 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Ackeroyd on "Russia and her People," and Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Mrs. Huntsman.

A United Meeting at the Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, is also announced by the Women's Freedom League for Wednesday, May 12, at 8 p.m. Speakers: Susan Countess of Malmesbury, Miss Nina Boyle, Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, and others. Chair: Miss Anna Munro.

"LES TROIS AGES DE L'HOMME" Etude de l'évolution de l'humanité. By GEORGE E. BOXALL. Paris: Librairie Fischbacher, 33, Rue de Seine, and all booksellers. Price 3/-.

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# CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

Single insertion, 24 words or less, 1s. 6d., 1d. per word for every additional word (four insertions for the price of three).

All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday morning. Address, not later than Tuesday morning, Address, not later than Tuesday morning. Address, not later than Tuesday morning. Address, not later than Tuesday morning. Address, not later than Tuesday morning.

## NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICES

**ST. MARY - AT - HILL.** — Church of Army Church, Eastcheap. Sundays, 9 and 6, views, orchestra, band. Prebendary Carlile.

## SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE CELEBRATION.** — The Women's Freedom League announce a United Meeting at Essex Hall, Essex Street, Strand, on Wednesday, May 12, at 8 p.m. Speakers: Susan Countess of Malmesbury, Miss Nina Boyle, Mrs. Bedford Penwick, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Fenwick Miller, Mrs. Marion Holmes, Miss Winifred Mayo, and Miss Townsend. Chairman: Miss Anna Munro. Admission free. Collection.

**FORWARD CYMRIC SUFFRAGE UNION** will be represented at the Women's Exhibition, Caxton Hall, on May 10, 11, 12, 3 to 10 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Davies, 8.30 p.m. on 10th; Miss Fedden, 5 p.m. on 12th. Tickets: Price 1s.; after 7 p.m., 6d.; seasons, 2s. 6d.; can be obtained from Hon. Secretary, 69, Wimpole Street, W.

**FORWARD CYMRIC SUFFRAGE UNION** will take part in the Demonstration and have a platform in Victoria Park on Sunday, May 23. Members can join the procession at East India Dock Gates at 3.45, and march under the Red Dragon banner. Meeting in park, 5 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Sorensen, Mrs. Duval, Mr. David Roberts. Chair: Mrs. Davies. Rally, Welsh!

**MEMORIAL HALL, Manchester,** Monday, May 17, at 7.30 p.m. Recital of Pianoforte Duets and Solos by Hope Squire and Frank Merrick. Tickets, 5s. (reserved), 2s. 6d., and 1s., from Messrs. Foreyth Bros., 126, Deansgate; and at the door.

**THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE** holds public meetings at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, Jermyan Street, Piccadilly, each Wednesday afternoon at 3.30. Speakers: May 12, Mrs. Ackroyd, "Russia and Her People," Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Mrs. Huntsman. Admission free.

## BOARD RESIDENCE, Etc.

**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 8s. 6d.; en pension 9s.; special terms for long stay; finest English provisions.—Manageress, 4788 Gerrard.

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**BRIGHTON.** — **TITCHFIELD HOUSE,** 21, Upper Rock Gardens, off Marine Parade. Good table, congenial society. Terms from 25s. weekly.—Mrs. Gray, W.S.P.U.

**CHISWICK PARK** (station 7 minutes). Board residences for students and workers; home comforts; quiet study, bedrooms; tennis; highly recommended; terms very moderate.—Mrs. Gwynnell, 34, Barrowgate Road, Chiswick.

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**RESIDENTIAL CLUB for Ladies.** Cubicles, with board, from 18s. 6d.; rooms moderate; also by the day.—Mrs. Campbell - Wilkinson, 49, Weymouth Street, Portland Place, London, W.

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**HAMPSTEAD SUBURB.** — Lady offers bright bed-sitting-room to lady engaged during day; open aspect, every convenience; bath, electric; suit vegetarian; references.—"Suburb," Votes for Women Office, 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street.

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## GARDENING.

**LADY GARDENER** (Swanley), having taken over management of Nursery Garden where owners have enlisted, seeks Pupils to assist her; carnation house, alpine, tomatoes, vegetables; tuition, 30s. monthly; live out.—Lucas, F.R.H.S., Corrie Cottage, Broadstone, Dorset.

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# UNITED SUFFRAGISTS

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ON

## THURSDAY, MAY 13,

At 8 p.m.

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SPEAKERS:

**MR. GERALD GOULD** (Chair)  
**MISS MARY NEAL**

**THE REV. W. TUDOR JONES, PH.D.**  
**MISS MARY RICHARDSON**

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## BOOKS

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