

THE VOTE.
September 12, 1913
ONE PENNY.

OFFICIAL MURDER.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1913

Edited by C. DESPARD.

OBJECTS: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men ;
to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between
the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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MURDER!

WHO IS

RESPONSIBLE?

WOMEN WANT THE VOTE

BECAUSE

The laws deal with marriage, divorce, education, housing, the care of children, the status of mothers, the rights of illegitimate children, the care of the sick, aged, and infirm, and the upkeep of schools, reformatories, and workhouses.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

The "Whipping-Boy" Again!

The Territorial recruiting authorities offered girls half-a-crown for every recruit brought in, not so long ago—a pitiful confession of ineptitude in the management of their own department. Lord Roberts and his National Training Lieutenants alternately scold and cajole mothers for not inspiring the youth of the country with a desire for military proficiency. The daily press attributes every shortcoming of the male sex to the lack of manners, morals, ability, and general "womanliness" of our own; and now we have the truly disgusting spectacle of an appeal to British women on behalf of British athletes. "Do British women mean to risk seeing their champion athletes beaten by Germans?" demands *The Daily Mirror*, with bathos unutterable. If anything could conduce to contempt for the "superior" sex, it is this sort of appeal from men who are always taunting and twitting women with their inferiority, and reproving them for not attending to their own sphere.

The Prime Minister and the Law.

We should like to be informed why those persons most prominently associated with the law, that is to say those who made it and administer it and control it, should themselves be considered exempt from its consequences, if those consequences are in any way personally inconvenient to them. We call pointed attention to the fact that the press gave unctuous and servile prominence to the scandalous and otherwise intolerable and offensive "outrage" committed by Miss Winnie Wallace and Miss Flora Smith on the golf links at Lossiemouth by speaking to Mr. Asquith and laying hold of him for a moment—in a far less violent manner, be it remarked, than he himself employed when he struck one woman with his hat at a reception, and when he and Mr. McKenna tried to throw two others into a pond on another golf-links occasion. This "outrage" was punished by having the ladies arrested, charged, detained, and remanded. They then applied to have Miss Asquith cited as a witness; whereupon the case was withdrawn. Meanwhile the ladies were in Inverness prison.

Reasons Why.

Now, either Mr. and Miss Asquith could not support on oath the grave allegations of assault made against the two girls, or they did not choose to put themselves to inconvenience, no matter what inconvenience they had inflicted on their opponents. In any case they have set the law at naught in a manifestly improper and indecent manner by allowing an arrest and a charge to be made in their name which they did not choose to support. Contrast the conduct of the accommodating Bench of Elgin with that of the Bench in the case of ordinary humble persons with business, not pleasure, to be interfered with. At Old-street Police-court, recently, two young women, Edith Haynes and Lizzie Howard, refusing their addresses, were charged with having robbed a man who, with another man, had accompanied them in a taxi at midnight. The solicitor for the prosecution asked leave to withdraw the case, but the magistrate would not consent to this. "There

were frequent charges of this sort, and this case had been referred to the Public Prosecutor and could not be allowed to drop. The prosecutor must attend or take the consequences." The circumstances of this case, with the exception of the charge and the character of those concerned, are on all fours with those of the Elgin case; and we would like to know under what Act or Ordinance or special proviso the Prime Minister and his family are placed above the law which it should be their duty to set an example of upholding.

Items of Interest.

One hundred and eighty-five new Acts were placed upon the Statute Book by the last session's work. Out of 102 days, some 54 hours only were devoted to the Bills of private members. One day was given to India, where there are over 150 millions of women in subjection. Ninety-one amendments to the Mental Deficiency Bill were passed through both Houses without discussion at the last moment, recalling the 174 amendments to the Insurance Act passed in one hour. Under 100 members was the number of representatives taking an interest in Maternity Benefit, Mental Deficiency, Indian affairs, and other important matters of national welfare. The Government disclaimed any intention of using its whips or its influence to secure the Maternity Benefit for the mothers. This is one of the few occasions when the Government can afford to give the House a "free vote." It is nearly always at the expense of voteless women.

There is another outbreak of masculine impertinence in *The Birmingham Post* of the same type as the correspondence in *The Daily Chronicle* about whether or not men should marry "girls from the City." The latter merely provokes the intolerant male manager of women's affairs to protest against her being "in the City" at all, when it means an office billet. No one protests against women in the City if it is only to scrub office stairs. No one has yet troubled to find out the effect of scrubbing stairs, and carrying heavy buckets up and down, on the maternal functions. In Birmingham, an appeal from a parent to have some protection for daughters from overtime, insanitary conditions, and want of mealtime, in offices, enables and encourages numbers of meddlers to protest, not against people who exploit girl clerks, but the girl clerk herself. "She ought not to be there," is the burden of their song.

TO-DAY.

There is a stir towards splendour in the soul
When a people who were waiting, and were dumb,
Unasked and unacknowledged, rise and come
Swinging, to fight their fight—to pay their toll:
There is a heave of strange hope for their goal,
A sting through hearts that had been only numb,
At the rippling pennons, the receding drum,
The many feet together, the one scroll.

To-day the women's nation, mild and wide
As all men's conquered territories, no less,—
Is stirring to one measure;—women press
Toward utterance and power, a risen tide.
Workers, kept back from fellowship, outside
Each city's heart, uncaptured in the stress,
They lived uncalled. Men's plans want spaciousness
Till women with their serve a land in pride.

Mothers and lovers, poets quiet so long,
Who know so well as you the shaping sure
Of the young power, the love that is our cure?
The charity and still thought that belong
To the melodious living of the strong?
Who saw so straight as you the triumph pure
Of peace the prophets told that should endure?
You lived undimmed by hot applauded wrong.

Unwarped by wars, uncrowned, and young and free,
Clear for creative things, for fair works long undone,
The women's nation rises to outrun
Our sin of war,—our sickness, poverty.
Happy the city of its victory,
Whose spires at dawn stand first against the sun
The little symbol desperately won,—
The bitter birth, the right that had to be!

MARGARET MITTLAND RADFORD.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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AT HEADQUARTERS.

Our Trafalgar-square Demonstration on Saturday afternoon, September 13, is to be a great success. It is being advertised by the Caravan, which, covered with great banners, is parading some of the principal thoroughfares all this week; it is accompanied by a little band of chalkers and bill-distributors. The meeting is one of protest against the biased administration of the law and its treatment of women, as instanced in the two months' imprisonment in the second division which Mrs. Kate Harvey is now undergoing at Holloway because of her refusal to pay her Insurance Tax and licence for her manservant. We have a fine list of speakers: Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Amy Hicks, M.A., Miss Anna Munro, Mrs. M. W. Nevinson, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Sproson, Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Tippet, Mr. Harry de Pass, Mr. George Lansbury, Mr. H. W. Nevinson, Mr. John Scurr and Mr. Mark Wilks. VOTE-sellers, literature-sellers, collectors, and banner-bearers please be at the office between 2.45 and 3 p.m. We hope every London member will attend the demonstration and bring as many friends as possible.

On Monday evening, September 15, a reunion of members and friends will be held at Caxton Hall, Westminster, at eight o'clock, by invitation of the President and National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Schofield Coates and Mrs. Tippet will speak. We hope to have a great gathering of our members and friends on that evening.

Wednesday afternoon, September 24, at Caxton Hall, we begin our series of weekly meetings. We have been fortunate in securing Mr. Laurence Housman for the first of these, the title of his address being "The Rights of Majorities." The chair will be taken each Wednesday at 3.30. Syllabus of speakers, with titles of their addresses, from September 24 until December 10, can be obtained at the W.F.L. Office.

Monday, October 6, we are beginning a series of fortnightly evening lectures, the first two of which will be held at Caxton Hall, the tickets of admission being 6d. and 1s. each. The first lecture will be by Mrs. Walter Gallichan (author of "The Truth About Woman"), the subject chosen being "Woman in Her Relationship to Man."

Monday, October 20, Mr. Laurence Housman will give his Lecture on "Petticoat Government." There will be opportunity for discussion at these evening meetings, and tickets for them can be obtained from 1, Robert-street.

Monday, November 3, Dr. Tudor has very kindly promised to give us an account of "Women's Work in the Bulgarian Medical Department during the Recent War in the Balkans." This lecture will be given at 1, Robert-street, and there will be no charge for admission. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.

A small enamel badge in the colours, with W.F.L. in gold, may be had for 1s., post free 1s. 1d. (either as brooch or tie-pin). Linen-faced notepaper, stamped with W.F.L. seal in green and gold, 3d. per quire; envelopes 3d. per packet of 25 (postage extra).

W.F.L. pencils, with "Votes for Women" in silver, price 1d. each, green or gold.

TURKISH WOMEN DEMAND "EQUAL RIGHTS."

The awakening of the women of Turkey is one of the most significant signs of the Woman's Movement today, and their organised revolt against the bondage of centuries is as astonishing as it is remarkable. The apathy, which is the result of long years of degrading conditions, is being shaken off, and Western women may well marvel at the extraordinary courage of the pioneers among Turkish women in organising an Equal Rights' Association and initiating a varied and vigorous campaign. *The London Budget*, which is giving so much space to Woman Suffrage and setting a welcome example to its contemporaries in fairness of attitude towards this dominant question of the day, recently published a long and interesting article by Mr. Vahan Cardashian on "The Suffragettes of Modern Turkey." He gives an account of an "extraordinary event," which is none other than his good fortune in being permitted to have a serious talk with two Turkish women who are leading the forward movement. Speaking of the position of Turkish women, held in bondage by men and taught that her "only function is to serve the convenience and comfort of her lord and master, one of these brave pioneers said:—

We felt distressed and agonised, we appreciated keenly the awkwardness, nay, the shocking and the humiliating hideousness of our position, but we could not break away from it because we had no economic freedom; there were no opportunities for women to work and maintain themselves. Men held the strings of the purse, and they unthinkingly decreed that we women should but prattle and act foolishly and do nothing that is sensible; see not the sun with the naked eye, and inhale the air without the nuisance of the veil.

You see that we were born into an ignorant, stupid, lustful, and tyrannical system, and for all these centuries we remained the slaves of this abominable system.

She added that the great difficulty with Turkish men was not their want of intelligence in recognising the justice of the women's demands, but their lack of will in taking action to secure redress. There is a ring of familiarity about her words which Suffragists will readily understand, where she says:—

We must hammer what we want into their heads, and compel them to act.

So it comes about that Turkish women are determined

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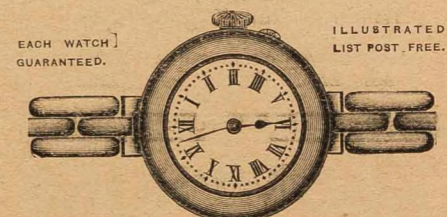
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to win equal rights with men and to fight for their own freedom. In their journal they exclude articles by men, declaring that they decline assistance from those who have kept them in shameful servitude for hundreds of years. Their demand is clearly stated as follows:—

We want to divide responsibility and lighten the nation's burden. Man has not sufficient power to do it all and do it well, even though he may not admit it. We want to be self-supporting, independent, and useful members of society. We want to be equal to man in all things where nature does not oppose.

The Turkish women have started their "Association for the Defence of Equal Rights," and explain its purpose thus:—

Our country is now passing through a critical period. We, the Turkish women, do not understand as yet the science of Government, and do not, therefore, propose to interfere in political matters. But, as members of a social body, we have the right to "unite" and enter upon the path of progress. Should we pursue to obtain this legitimate end, in accordance with the laws and regulations of our religion, we shall be in time an important and useful element in the life of our Fatherland. The Association for the Defence of Equal Rights will educate women in the duties of motherhood and wifehood, will strive to open fields of employment to the needy girls and women, and will endeavour to disseminate correct information as to the ideas and ideals of our women. The association will proceed in its difficult task along three distinct lines.

First: It will prepare several costumes in different fashions, free from ornament or any objectionable features, entirely in accordance with the requirements of the Koran, and submit them to the Government for its approval. In these proposed costumes the veil shall be discarded, because the Koran does not require it, and the shawl will be so modified as to render it unencumbering and serviceable. Modesty of appearance and the consideration of service will dictate the fashion of the street garment of the Turkish woman.

Second: Within the limits of our means, we will open workshops for our women, found schools where to teach useful trades and arts, and secure employment for our women in those branches of commerce and industry in which women are employed.

Third: The association will also establish schools for women, publish newspapers and periodicals, arrange lecture courses, and resort to all other means and agencies to bring about the

moral, mental, and physical development of the Moslem womanhood.

We welcome this splendid advance of the Turkish pioneers and wish them the best of success in their efforts. Their courage is magnificent in face of age-long bondage; it is more: it is inspiring to all women. We heartily welcome the confident forecast of Belkis Hanum, who concluded her sketch of this remarkable forward movement, thus:—

I can state that in the next quarter of a century our present disabilities will be things of the past, that the equality of the sexes will be established and respected, and then we will join hands with our European sisters to contribute our share to the duties of life, and to the promotion of the enlightenment and happiness of men and women of all factions and races.

NEWS OF THE MOVEMENT.

The Trades Union Congress, sitting at Manchester, supported the chairman's opinion as to the value of political action in Labour matters by passing the following resolution:—

"This Congress desires to call the special attention of British organised labour to the vital importance of the ballot that is being taken under the Trade Union Act, 1913, which will determine whether political activities shall form a part of the objects and functions of their trade societies. It will be obviously futile to expect fundamental reforms to be carried into law unless trade unions have power and liberty to engage in political work on behalf of their members. This Congress, therefore, strongly recommends all trade unionists to vote in the ballot on this question in favour of their unions undertaking political action in defence of Labour's rights."

The following resolution was also passed, with only seven dissentients:—

"That this Congress expresses its deep dissatisfaction with the Government's treatment of the franchise question, considering that the Plural Voting Bill is no substitute for the promised Reform Bill; and, further, this Congress protests against the Prime Minister's failure to redeem his repeated pledges to women; and calls upon the Parliamentary Committee to press for the immediate enactment of a Government Reform Bill, which must include the enfranchisement of women."

The Church Congress, which will sit this year at Southampton, is preparing to discuss—with some heat—the question of Women's Suffrage. Lord Hugh Cecil and Mr. Snowden are among the Suffragist men who will be present, and a deeply interesting debate is anticipated. Nearly 1,000 tickets have already been sold.

The case of Miss Wallworth, wrongfully arrested at Manchester as being concerned in the burning of a railway coach at Newton Heath siding, and who was the victim of extraordinary police procedure without any compensation being afforded her for her wrongful arrest and detention, has been taken up by the Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage, and discussed by the City Council of Manchester. She is no more likely to obtain justice than did Miss Jessie Brown.

The will of Miss Emily Wilding Davison, who died from injuries received on the racecourse from the King's horse, in the Epsom Cottage Hospital, runs as follows:—"I, Emily Wilding Davison, of Longhorsley, S.O., Northumberland, hereby bequeath all my personal property and money to my mother, Margaret Davison, of Longhorsley, S.O., Northumberland, and I appoint the said Margaret Davison executrix of this my will." The will is dated October 20, 1909. Probate has been granted to Mrs. Margaret Davison, of Longhorsley, Morpeth, the sole executrix.

Miss Bennett, of Dublin, and Mrs. Kineton Parkes, of the Women's Tax Resistance League, who has been taking her holiday in Ireland, addressed a meeting at Ballina. Wild scenes resulted, the local paper describing the conduct of the mob of hooligans as shameful, and a disgrace to the town. Squibs and bombs were exploded, the ladies were pelted, abused and threatened, interruptions prevented any hearing of the speeches, the breaking of a barrier created a panic and prolonged disorder, and the meeting broke up in confusion.

Mrs. Pankhurst is to hold meetings in Chicago, Philadelphia, Boston, and other great centres of population in the States before her return to England, and will make the Traffic in Women one of her chief topics in lecturing. Plans are being discussed for a monster meeting on her return to London. Miss Sylvia Pankhurst has gone for a trip to Denmark, and has had a cordial reception on landing. Mr. Lansbury and Mr. Scurr are still at large. Mr. Phillips, Miss Jarvis, and Miss Annie Bell (who was arrested at St. Pancras Station disguised as a man) have been rearrested under the Cat-and-Mouse Act, and Miss Louisa Shepherd was rearrested at Malmesbury.

"The Cat-and-Mouse Act is predoomed to failure" (writes "Paper Seller"), "as it would take years and years to serve any of the sentences. A reference to the amount of financial loss caused by militancy during the last few months will show that instead of decreasing there has been an increase in damage to property, from Devonshire to Scotland, Liverpool itself having come in for a share as a protest against the Cat-and-Mouse Act, which has, I contend, proved an incitement to militancy instead of a deterrent, as your correspondent suggests."

MRS. HARVEY'S IMPRISONMENT.

The meeting outside Holloway Gaol, held last Saturday from the Women's Freedom League Caravan, was small and not particularly sympathetic. The speakers—Mrs. Hyde, Mrs. Despard, and Miss Boyle—were heard without very much interruption, but with little enthusiasm. The meetings at Bromley, on the other hand, held by the Women's Tax Resistance and Freedom Leagues alternately, have been more than satisfactory. Miss Hicks and Miss Boyle, on Wednesday and Monday nights, secured excellent crowds on the Market-square, and were listened to with deep attention and quiet courtesy. These meetings will continue throughout Mrs. Harvey's imprisonment. The caravan will continue its advertising campaign through London and the suburbs until next Saturday's meeting is over; and the list of speakers for the demonstration is more than satisfactory.

The following resolution will be put to the meeting:—

That this meeting protests with indignation against the vindictive sentences passed on Voteless Women, and especially that on Mrs. Harvey; and demands that the Government accord equal treatment to men and women under the law and under the Constitution.

The arrangements are as follows:—

PLATFORM 1.—FACING NATIONAL GALLERY.

Chair: MISS ANNA MUNRO.
3.40.—Mrs. Despard.
3.55.—Mr. George Lansbury.
4.10.—Mrs. Cobden Sanderson.
4.20.—Mr. Harry de Pass.
4.35.—Miss Nina Boyle.
4.50.—Resolution.
4.55.—Collection and Questions.

PLATFORM 2.—FACING STRAND.

Chair: MISS AMY HICKS, M.A.
3.40.—Mr. John Scurr.
3.55.—Miss Nina Boyle.
4.10.—Mr. George Lansbury.
4.25.—Mrs. Nevinson.
4.40.—Mr. Mark Wilks.
4.50.—Resolution.
4.55.—Collection and Questions.

PLATFORM 3.—FACING PALL MALL.

Chair: MRS. TANNER.
3.40.—Mr. H. W. Nevinson.
3.55.—Mrs. Tippett.
4.10.—Mrs. Sproson.
4.25.—Mr. John Scurr.
4.35.—Mrs. Despard.
4.50.—Resolution.
4.55.—Collection and Questions.

The Chair to be taken at 3.30.

"THE MODERN GIRL."

We are grateful for the information supplied us by a lady journalist in regard to the splendid services rendered by Miss Nan Clark, a young lady who was one of the passengers on the ill-fated express at Aisgill. Miss Clark was one of the first to leave her compartment, and try to find out what had happened. She went up and down the length of the train, rousing other passengers, visiting the engine, and carrying messages, helping wherever possible, and giving valuable aid to the wounded. In view of the incessant criticism to which the young girl of today is subjected, and the hail of reproof which falls on her manners, resources and capacity, it is a very pleasant and encouraging matter to find, in so terrible a condition of things, that not only Miss Clark, but several other quite young girls, showed a self-control, a courage, and a resourcefulness that was remarkable, and that is much at variance with the constant assertions that girls are more hysterical and selfish to-day than in the past.

THE W.S.P.U. AND THE PUBLIC.

Hampton Court Palace has been reopened, after being closed to the public for seven months for fear of Suffragists. Only a few of the suites of apartments remain closed.

Fires at Dulwich College, whereby damage was done to the science laboratory and the east wing, necessitating the services of three fire brigades; an attempt to burn a cricket pavilion at the International School's playing-fields, Hampstead; fires in the letter-boxes in several districts of Bromley, Kent; the firing of an unfinished house at Jesmond, Newcastle; an attempt to fire the Calvinistic Methodist Chapel at Llanrug, Carnarvon; an outbreak of fire and an explosion at the post-office, Lewisham, whereby a large portion of the building and all the mails were

Mrs. Despard's letter to the Home Office asking for Mrs. Harvey's release has elicited the reply that the Home Secretary can see no reason to intervene, and that he does not admit that "Queenie Gerald" is not still serving her sentence.

Mr. Harben has addressed the following letter to the Home Office:—

Newland-park, Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks.
September 6, 1913.

Dear Sir,—May I be permitted to appeal to you to use your power to secure a reduction of the sentence on Mrs. Harvey, who as a matter of principle has refused to pay the contribution due under the Insurance Act.

Justice can always afford to be merciful; unfairness is bound to fall back on cruelty for its support. While women are voteless in the hands of men, the sense of injustice is bound to arise among them; and that is all the more reason why a Government, which does not propose to remove that grievance, should be doubly careful to be fair in all other respects. Yet more persons have been imprisoned for political offences in the last four or five years than at any recent period in our history; and while the administration of the law is thus openly prostituted for political purposes, there is growing up in the public mind a contempt for the law so widespread that it has already had a damaging effect on public order, and will certainly lead to more serious consequences still.

I would ask you, Sir, what good purpose can possibly be served by such a sentence as this? Two months in the Second Division will cause considerable suffering to Mrs. Harvey herself; but so far from being a deterrent to her or anyone else, its effect will be exactly the reverse. The fact that the offences of Mrs. Harvey and Queenie Gerald are on the same level before the law will ring as a challenge to all decent men and women throughout the country to remove the poison from the springs of justice at all costs, and with the utmost speed. Were it not that cruelty to women has now become a Government pastime, and that the terrors of Holloway are so obviously the *panem et circenses* thrown to the creatures of Llanystumdwy, it would be impossible to suppose that in England such a sentence could be allowed to stand.—I remain, yours faithfully,

(Signed) HENRY D. HARBEN.

The Right Hon. Reginald McKenna, M.P.

destroyed, are all attributed to Suffragists. The total destruction by fire of Killarney House and its priceless art collections; the destruction of a bakery near Belfast; and the heavy losses by fire at the Government timber stores, Haulbowline dockyards, which blazed fiercely and far, are not attributed to Suffragists. The firing of the rector's premises at Llanattock, attributed to Suffragists, was perpetrated by a lad of 18, who allowed the women to be blamed falsely, but subsequently confessed.

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THE "PROTECTED" SEX.

[There are not wanting signs that the stern agitation carried on by women is having its effect on the Bench, and a noticeable increase in the severity of sentences in cases of criminal assault, and a decrease in the severity of sentences on deserted girls charged with offences against their unfortunate children and concealment of birth, is the result. The presence of our Special Reporter also has an influence, and her work is of extreme value.]

Alice Eliz. Mercer, on Wednesday, September 3, before Mr. Justice Rowlatt, for manslaughter of her male child and the concealment of birth. She is a widow with seven children, and supports herself with needlework. Was housekeeper to a man who ill-treated her. She left him at Christmas; the child was born in July, and by an accident died at birth. She was frightened and hid it in a drawer. The judge advised counsel to withdraw charge of manslaughter. On the second count, *i.e.*, concealment of birth, found **not guilty**.

Edward Jones, shooting with intent to murder his wife. Had repeatedly threatened her with revolver. Prisoner said he only meant to frighten her. Found guilty of intent to do her grievous bodily harm. **Three years' penal servitude**.

Bridget Waters, charged with intent to murder her husband by cutting his throat when asleep. The wound was not serious, and she said she only meant to frighten him as he ill-treated her and called her filthy names. A police inspector said she was a good wife who was badly treated by her husband. On one occasion she had to jump out of the window to escape his violence, and she had declined bail because "she was happier in prison." Found guilty of unlawful wounding. Bound over in £10 to come up if called upon. Mr. Rowlatt said: "You have adopted an ill-advised mode of calling attention to your grievances."

James Stone (46); criminal assault on Kate Bridges, aged 5 years 8 months. Prisoner lodged with Mrs. Bridges, and on July 2, while the parents were out, called the child into his room and committed the assault. The brother, aged 11, who slept in the room with prisoner, heard his sister suddenly scream and took her into the mother's room. When the latter returned home she found the child sobbing, too frightened to speak, and covered in blood from waist to knees. The police were called in and found blood in prisoner's bed. The child is still attending Guy's Hospital, suffering severely. Mr. Rowlatt said this was a serious charge, and the prisoner could not plead ordinary animal passions. **Six years' penal servitude**.

William Yabsley (72). Criminally assaulting Rose Barnwell, aged 12. On June 25 he pulled the child into his shop, assaulted her and behaved in a most repulsive manner; gave her a penny and told her to come again and tell no one about it. The child, who is feeble-minded, gave her evidence with difficulty. A neighbour was told by her what had happened, and gave evidence. When arrested, prisoner admitted the attempt, and said it "did not happen more than twice." Mr. Rowlatt said to jury, "I must say you would be taking the safer course in finding him guilty of indecent assault only," and commented on the girl's mental deficiency. Found guilty—**twelve months**.

Harold Edwards (20), criminal assault on Amelia Clampit (15). Pleading he did not know she was under 16. Ordered to pay **5s. a week** towards support of the child.

Edward Fowler (66), criminal assault on Edith Anker (15). Pleading guilty to an attempt only. **Two months Second Division**.

Samuel Schaff, stealing £189. **Six months Second Division**.

Henry Dudmore, postman, stealing postal order for 5s. **Nine months**.

James Beer (49), on Saturday, September 6, criminal assault on Selina Beer, his daughter (15), who will shortly have a child. **Five years' penal servitude**.

James R. Goater, before Mr. Justice Rentoul, for feloniously wounding his wife by attempting to cut her throat. Had been drinking heavily. Wife tried to take the blame, and was an unwilling witness. **Bound over in £5**.

John Weedon, for knocking down a drunken man and robbing him. **Three years' penal servitude**.

Nellie Britton (23), endeavouring to conceal birth of male child by putting it on fire. Guilty. **Bound over in £5**. Mr. Justice Rentoul made a kindly and merciful summing up.

E. M. W.

FROM THE DAILY PRESS.

Murderous Assault.

Mrs. Johnstone, Glasgow, assaulted by her husband with bread-knife on July 9, cut on hands and face, kicked and beaten, jawbone fractured and four ribs broken. Had refused to give him money, and he had searched her, she resisting. Sheriff Lee, at the Glasgow Sheriff Summary Court, remarked that it might have ended in murder. **Eighteen months**.

Mrs. Woods, of Walthamstow, assaulted by husband with poker on August 12, since when she has been in hospital. Man partially paralysed, and sight failing; she supported him and

six children. Struck her on the head because she did not answer him. Broke her fingers and left her unconscious in street. **Eight months**.

Emily Tracy, Grimsby, assaulted by William Robinson, with whom she lived. She had been drinking, and lay asleep on couch, fully dressed. Found herself lying naked on kitchen floor in a pool of blood with several severe wounds on breast, thigh and abdomen. Had been attacked with fish-cutting knife. Man pleaded jealousy. **Committed for trial**.

Mrs. Dunn, Bishop Auckland, assaulted by husband with poker on August 24. Fractured skull and collar-bone. He then attempted suicide.

Leah McCarthy, North London, struck on nose while lying in bed by Louis Camberg, and turned out of flat in nightdress. **Fined £3 and 7s. 6d. costs**.

Mrs. Williams, Pimlico, struck in the face by husband during midnight row, because he had brought home a young woman whose presence the wife objected to. **Fined £3 and costs**.

Mrs. Hope, Brighton, hustled and struck in compartment of excursion train by William Goodsell, who deliberately provoked a disturbance. Another lady had her leg injured. Man under the influence of drink. Gave a false address when removed. **Fined £2 and costs**.

Indecent Conduct.

Alexander Lindsay, Greenock, found guilty in the Paisley Sheriff Court on five counts of improper conduct towards women during June. Forty-one witnesses. Convicted of similar offence in 1907. Sheriff-Principal Wilson, K.C., of the County of Renfrew and Bute, sentenced him to **two years**.

John Pearce, indecent conduct towards male person, sentenced at Old Bailey to **four years' penal servitude**.

Abduction.

At Dover Police-court, William George Barnes and Alfred Hibbs were committed for trial on a charge of abducting two sisters, Elizabeth Hutchings, aged 15, and Susan Hutchings, aged 12. The girls accepted an invitation to go to Ramsgate on the prisoners' motor-yacht, but they did not reach Ramsgate till four o'clock the following morning. Susan said that on the yacht Hibbs kissed her. The prisoners were further charged with assaulting Celia Bray, aged 13, when on the yacht with a girl friend.—*Weekly Dispatch*, August 31.

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

"Fair" Comment!

"Recent developments of the so-called Woman movement," says *The Law Journal*, lend a fresh interest to the records of feminine trading in the Bankruptcy Report. With the right of separate property women acquired the privilege of bankruptcy, and 390 exercised the privilege in 1912. The recent tide of national prosperity has affected the feminine as well as the masculine trader, for the failures among women in 1912 were 9 fewer than in 1911, and 103 fewer than in 1910. Grocery, drapery and haberdashery, millinery and dressmaking, and inn-keeping are the businesses in which the greatest number of failures occurred among women. While among men receiving orders are much more numerous than deeds of arrangement, among women deeds of arrangement are more common. The receiving orders made against women numbered 154, while the deeds of arrangement into which they entered numbered 236. Is it that women are more adroit in dealing with their creditors or that men, when they have women as their debtors, are more inclined to be forbearing? It is a significant fact that most of the women traders who became insolvent in 1912 were married. The report records the failure of 146 married women, 129 widows, and 74 spinsters. Does this mean that the speculative trading of the married woman is sometime the sheltering device of the scheming husband? The new Bankruptcy Act provides that "where a married woman has been adjudged bankrupt, her husband shall not be entitled to claim any dividend as a creditor in respect of any money or other estate lent or entrusted by him to his wife for the purposes of her trade or business until all claims of the other creditors of his wife for valuable consideration in money or money's worth have been satisfied." That, no doubt, is a wise provision, though in the absence of a similar provision as to the claim of a wife, it affords a further illustration of the greater consideration with which the law is wont to regard the interests of women."

Organisation.

The scheduling of the additional trades of shirt, jam, pickle, and potted meat-making, under the Trades Boards Act, is to form the basis of a fresh campaign of the Women's Trade Union League with a view to getting the workers employed in these

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE will commence its
AUTUMN SESSION of Wednesday Afternoon **PUBLIC MEETINGS**
At CAXTON HALL on September 24, 1913.
Speakers: Mr. LAURENCE HOUSMAN (on "The 'Rights' of Majorities"), **Miss NINA BOYLE.**
The Chair will be taken at 3.30 p.m. **ADMISSION FREE.**

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trades to organise. After the Insurance Act came into operation women workers' unions received a temporary set-back owing to the disinclination of the workers to pay double premiums, but their membership premium and their insurance premium, but the tide had "now turned." There is great need for organisation among the jam, pickle, and potted meat workers, as they are amongst the poorest class of workers, with regard to whom, so far as Manchester is concerned, the Women's Trade Council has been doing excellent work.

Trades Union Congress.

Mr. Ben Turner (Weavers' Association) moved:—"That this Congress declares in favour of a minimum wage for all adult workers, and calls upon the Government to cease to let contracts to any firm where the wages for women are at a lower rate than paid to men doing the same class of work." There were, he said, three millions of adult women workers in various occupations whose average wage, according to Mr. Chiozza Money, was less than 12s. per week. If that was so these women were not enabled to maintain the standard of life to which they were entitled by their labour. They were themselves employers of labour, and he asserted that in that capacity they employed women who were making clothing for our sailors and soldiers under sweating conditions. He wanted it laid down that employers of labour ought not to employ women under £1 per week. Women needed the assistance of the State in this matter. (Hear, hear.) The resolution was carried.

Unfair Conditions.

Instances of unfair conditions of employment prevalent in some parts of the country under co-operative societies were given at a widely representative conference under Amalgamated Co-operative Union auspices at Swindon recently.

One case quoted was that of a young woman who was the first hand in a co-operative drapery establishment, and who earned only 9s. a week. Other instances were given of co-operative employees obtaining only £1 a week, upon which they had to maintain a wife and family, yet the people who employed them were trade unionists themselves.

The woman worker's claim to the trade union movement was debated, and the district secretary urged that special attention be given to the organisation of women and girl employees. "We think it time," he wrote, "that our men should realise that they cannot afford to leave the women unorganised. In the past some branches appear to have neglected this important class of workers, and to have acted as if trade unionism was not a necessity for women and girls."

Remarkable allegations regarding her treatment in a rescue home were made by a young woman of twenty-three, the daughter of a Scottish gamekeeper at the Westminster Police-court.

She was sent, with her own consent, in June last to Stoneygate Home, Leicester. She left that institution on Thursday, and, being homeless and destitute, was in a few hours again in the hands of the police at Knightsbridge. It was stated that she was a good embroidress, but that she had been so restless and unhappy at the home, that they "were obliged to get rid of her." Between her sobs the girl told the magistrate that she could not possibly do the work at the home. "I was kept at it in the laundry day after day," she said, "from five in the morning until half-past eight at night. Some of the girls were started at four in the morning. Can the other girls be seen and allowed to disclose the real facts?" she asked. "I wish to be in a home with a task within my ability." The magistrate said he would like to know the truth. "I shall have inquiries made," he stated, "and shall personally write to the home." "I don't mind working hard until six or seven in the evening," said the girl, "but I ought to have some leisure."

A remand was ordered.

A New Line.
Miss Alice Neville, of Worthing, well known as a clever trainer of polo ponies, has established with great success a motor garage, and has won fame on the South Coast as a skilful chauffeur and mechanic.

Woman Strike Leader.

Miss Varley, strike leader from the Black Country, is playing a conspicuous part in the clay workers' strike in Mid-Cornwall. She has organised a body of female pickets, who sing hymns before visiting the clay pits. Miss Varley this week became the centre of a riot in which the police used their batons.

Strike Victories.

To celebrate the happy termination of the strike at Messrs. S. Bourne and Co.'s Britannia Cotton Mills, a meeting of the girls was held in the Co-operative Hall, Netherfield, last night, when congratulatory speeches were delivered. The hall was packed by the erstwhile strikers, wearing the badge of the National Federation of Women Workers, and it was announced that the whole 500 girls had joined the newly-formed Colwick branch of the Union.

Young girls (beginners), in receipt of less than 8s. per week, an advance of 6d.; girls in receipt of over 8s., an increase of 1s.

For the men, a minimum wage of 25s. The point with regard to lubrication has also been conceded by the firm, the only concession refused being the reinstatement of the manager, Mr. Ashworth.

The men seem, as usual, to have secured more "happy" terms than the girls!

The Kilbirnie networkers' strike, which lasted for twenty-one weeks, was settled this week. Ex-Bailie M'Kerrel, Kilmarnock, conducted the negotiations with the five employers who had not previously conceded the points in dispute. The employers have granted an increase of 4d. per net on the present rates all over 55 yards on jumping machines, and other lengths in proportion, also 4d. advance for gabling, lining, &c., and 6d. a week to all machine and time workers. These rates are to remain in force for eighteen months from the date work is resumed, and the employers agree to place no obstacle in the way of every girl joining the union. Great satisfaction is felt in the district at the settlement, and work is expected to be resumed in a few days.

Lock-Out.

Six hundred girls, members of the Irish Women's Workers' Union, were locked out last week by Messrs. Jacob and Co., the Dublin biscuit manufacturers.

Women Signalmen.

In a tiny signal-box, midway between Bampton and Morebath, near the Somerset border of Devon, a strange sight may be seen daily, except on Sundays, when there are no trains on the Exe Valley Line.

For the past twenty-three years a woman has been in charge of the box, and, to her credit be it said, she does her railway work as satisfactorily as any man. Mrs. Town by name, she lives in a small semi-detached cottage adjoining the signal-box, with her daughter as her only companion.

There are only seven trains each way, except on Fridays, when Exeter market makes things slightly busier, and between their passage to and fro she fits in and out of her home to perform domestic duties. She is proud of her job, but truthfully admits that there is another woman signalman in the West. This is Mrs. Hill, of Lee-crossing, near Minehead.

Sweated Girl Labour.

Some hard cases of the conditions under which girls are employed are given in the annual report of the Industrial Law Committee. In a Yorkshire cotton factory the workers are not allowed to have the windows open and complain of the hot atmosphere, which makes them feel exhausted and "fit for nothing" at the end of the day. In one week several women had to leave work during the day in almost a fainting condition.

Two workers in a Surrey factory laundry, whose wages averaged in one case 5s. 6d., and in the other 6s. 6d., tore a sheet while stretching it. Each worker was fined 4s. 6d., the deduction being made at the rate of 6d. a week. One worker, who, on a misapprehension, stayed away from work for half a day, was fined 1s. 3d. for time lost, and a further deduction of 3s. as a "punishment," was made from her wage of 13s. at the rate of 1s. per week.

Typical cases of lengthy hours—in one instance from 6.30 a.m. to 8 p.m. in a furniture factory—are also quoted, while complaints are made that girls have to stand all day at work in cases where they could do equally well sitting down.

Long Hours of Girl Workers.

At the Manchester County Police-court, Messrs. Yapp, Limited, laundry proprietors, of Stretford, were summoned under six informations for employing young persons after the specified time. Miss Taylor, an inspector, explained that the defendants were very large employers of labour, employing over 100 women and girls. She visited the laundry at Stretford at 7.30 p.m. on July 18, and found several young girls at work, the hours being from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Quite apart from the question of long hours for the girls, this should be stopped on the ground of competition. Yapp, Limited, were one of the largest laundries in the Manchester district, and it was not fair to the smaller laundries that young persons should work after the specified hours.

Defendants' solicitor said the firm had been in business for thirty-five years, and it said much for them that in spite of the vigilance of the lady inspectors this was the first offence of this kind brought against them. The late manageress was under the impression that if girls were over the age of sixteen they could be kept.

A fine of 10s. and costs was imposed in each case, amounting in all to £7 4s.

Women Workers in the City.

The extent to which women now compete with men is evidenced by a return presented to the City Corporation by its Medical Officer in reference to the number of employees in city factories and workshops. The total for both sexes works out at 65,582, and of these 31,081 are women. A quarter of a century ago the odd hundreds were probably women, and all the others of what used to be called the sterner sex.

The Homeless Woman.

An excellent work is being carried out in Manchester on behalf of those distressed and homeless women who are compelled to roam the streets during the night. For the last two years the "Mary's Aid Shelter" has provided them with a refuge and a home. No fewer than 6,000 women of all creeds have sought the assistance of the "Mary's Aid Shelter" during the past winter. No payment has been exacted, the whole cost having been borne by voluntary subscribers. One generous priest—the Rev. T. Walsh, M.R.—in addition to a number of gifts in kind, presented his year's stipend, £50, to the fund.

THE VOTE.

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FRIDAY, September 12, 1913.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.
Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

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OFFICIAL MURDER.

Murder! It is an ugly word, and it arouses harsh and ugly feelings. Long, long ago the ancients allotted to the murderer his fate. "Whoso sheddeth man's blood by man shall his blood be shed." Because he was dangerous to Society, because he had destroyed "God's handiwork," therefore, like the wild tiger of the wilderness he should be hunted down and made to give his life for the life that he had taken.

The blood feud which often broadened out into tribal, even into national wars, was imposed upon men as a religious duty until it was satisfied.

The blood-feud has passed; the law is now the avenger; but the old savagery remains. We know how keenly a murder-trial is watched. When there are elements of drama, however sordid it may be, the whole atmosphere is charged with passion. Daily papers fill columns with the story of the wretched prisoner, his appearance, his demeanour, incidents in his life, how he looks as the net draws more closely about him. And when it is over—when the awful sentence is given—respectable citizens rejoice that they can sleep in their beds in peace and go about their business without fear. The active and vigilant police are duly praised for their cleverness in capturing the criminal, and, over well-spread tables, well-fed people speak with grave satisfaction about the beautiful security of modern society.

There comes to one sometimes a passionate wish that, for one lurid moment, persons such as these could see what lies behind their false security, could know on what they stand. For truly the crust is thin, and beneath it are the fires of an earth-hell. Could they see they might curse those active friends of society and go out with terror-quicken eyes to hunt down the real criminals.

But are there any crimes, say the respectable, that the law cannot reach? Alas! there are sins against humanity which the law does not even attempt to touch. And the reason is not far to seek. We—the women who are agitating for human right and spiritual freedom—have, with our purged vision, gained a glimpse of the truth. We have seen that the law as it is at present made and administered, is and must be unequal, for it represents only one side of humanity. "Thou shalt" and "Thou shalt not" are its watchwords; and, in the event of disobedience, the whip! Right through we have the note of domination—physical force rather than moral sanction.

To us women, who are by nature practical, the strangest part of the whole sad business is that what would be considered iniquitous in dealings between individuals is commendable, or, at worst, only a little bit of sharp practice in commerce or politics. Breaches of faith in statesmen? Why, the very word politics seems to spell dishonour; chicanery, greed, theft, not of the petty order that is punished in the Courts, but of a large and sinister kind—thrift of man's labour and woman's honour, and the child's legitimate claim upon the community, seduction and murder—these are a few of the crimes which, when committed in a large way, go unpunished by the judiciary.

That grim and awful thing, murder, for instance, which is looked upon with horror when one or even two human beings are victims, takes quite a different complexion when the victims are many in number, and when their death-agony is long drawn-out. The world of Society was shocked when the terrible industrial conditions came first to be generally known. Now it is becoming accustomed to tales of woe. We know it all—the long hours, the unholy driving, the miserable pay, the insanitary work-shops, the poison-dealing chemicals, the reckless using up of women, and even of children, if they can bring grist to the masters' mills or contribute to their pleasure.

Our blood splashes upward, O gold heaper,
And your purple shows your path;
But the child's sob in the silence curses deeper
Than the strong man in his wrath.

The law does not call this murder; but even if it did, who is responsible? Occasionally, as in the case of the hollow-ware industry, Commissions will be appointed and orders will be given; but no penalty is attached to disobedience, and months pass into years and conditions remain unchanged, save that the death-roll increases.

Experts will sit in solemn conclave and call up witnesses before them. Such an inquiry is being held on the Midland Railway disaster. Men and women all over the country should be demanding enquiry into the events leading to the late labour troubles in Dublin. It may possibly be that the King Log which has its residence in Dublin Castle will try to find out who is responsible for the collapse of a condemned house in a Dublin slum. It is easy to predict that, in all these enquiries, the criminal will be undiscovered.

The railway magnates have, it appears, already settled that something which they call "the human element" has been chiefly responsible for the slaughter at Aisgill. Lighting of the train by gas instead of electricity, fatal carelessness in neglecting to provide—as should be done in every train—implements to be used in case of emergency; and the wrong conditions under which the men work, if mentioned, will not be severely dealt with. The question of dividends must always be kept to the front. Therefore, caution!

Naturally, too, when the so-called "riots" in Dublin are under consideration, there will be many to bear witness to the exemplary conduct of that splendid body of men, the Irish Constabulary. We shall be told how by their courage and promptitude they have saved the situation; but we shall not be told why the Government allowed that situation to arise and left it to the Constabulary to settle, at heavy cost of life and limb. Murder has been done; but because it is official murder, no one is responsible, and, of course, no one will be punished.

It will be said: there is little use in declaiming against iniquity. Find the criminal. Ah! but that is just where the difficulty comes in. Highly-placed criminals manage things so well.

There is a game, well known to children, the fun of which consists in hiding an article in some open and obvious place. A little company are brought in to seek. First one and then another find out the trick; but they are bound by the rules of the game not to reveal the secret, only to stand aside from the search. So it goes on until the last seeker having seen the hidden article, it is snatched from its hiding-place and given into the hands of those whose business will be to hide it again.

"All the world's a stage, and all the men and women merely players," said our greatest poet. Alas! the games of the child are too often to grown men and women dread and damning realities.

The biggest, most interesting and, on the whole, most profitable game is that of politics. One of the tricks of this game is to hide offenders against the moral law who are often what the world calls "good fellows," and whose unscrupulous cleverness makes them valuable

to their party, by setting them on high before the people; and these, unhappily, in the past, have fallen down and worshipped them.

When will they find out the trick? We believe we can answer: When that democracy which all the political parties profess to follow is not only a flattered and admired theory, but a living fact. And this will never come about while humanity in our nation is cramped and fettered by failure to use its full strength.

The times are difficult, and we need all our resources. Man and woman, awake, wide-eyed to the sun, sensitive to perceive the evils that menace us, rise to build up a beautiful society for our children—we must stand together dauntless, if we would fight successfully; and there can be no doubt that we are nearing a time of conflict and of danger. If the cynical denial of the rights of the people, men and women, if the cynical disregard of life—this official murder—is allowed to go on, the glory of our nation, tarnished now, will vanish, and her sceptre will pass into worthier hands.

C. DESPARD.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ENFRANCHISEMENT.

The social circle called the State is an enlargement of the social circle called the home; it is the collective home of the race made up of many interests but all related to one centre—the common good. Each individual member of the circle is responsible for the home and for the State, each begins in the home, the knowledge of relationship which should extend to a recognition of the common good, and each who fails to realise that he is a part of a greater whole will sin against that whole by omission or commission.

The desire of woman for the vote is not the desire for a new function; it is an obedience to the old ideal of service, but of an extended service; it is the desire for such formal recognition and privilege as shall better equip her to serve the good of the whole in these unparalleled modern conditions.

A class that does not possess the privileges of its position cannot properly fulfil the responsibilities of its position. To expect it to do so is equivalent to demanding that a man lift a weight and denying him the place which would give him purchase.

Enfranchisement is the formal recognition of the relationship of the individual to the State, and is to citizenship what the marriage ceremony is to matrimony—the official recognition and symbol of an essential fact. In both cases such union as exists is essential, not bestowed; but this does not in either case make its official recognition negligible. Dignity, responsibility, legality are attained and emphasised by such official recognition. In the case of citizenship, the bestowal of attentions, gifts, even kindnesses by one class of citizens upon another is no more a substitute for the formal recognition of mutual choice, responsibility and privilege than it is in the case of personal relationship. Woman is the wife of the State, not the mistress, and men and women will be dignified alike by recognition of this fact. When two parties are equally concerned in the results of co-operation, to hold one party responsible and liable under conditions fixed by the other, allowing them no share in deciding what those conditions shall be, is to contradict the principle of unity at the very base of action, and is equally unfair to both parties though the injury to the aggressor be more subtle.

The larger womanhood which is now impelling woman to include all youth and all womanhood and all manhood in her practical hope and labour for better conditions, is the divinest womanhood the world can show to-day and may be trusted because of this divinity. The power of men and women, as well as their happiness, lies not in separateness but in unity, and as man cannot degrade the position of woman without degrading himself, so he cannot dignify her position by recognition and justice without dignifying himself.

INEZ DICKINSON CUTLER.

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MALE MILITANCY.

The gentle and persuasive methods of the male sex, which has its full complement of voters and representatives, continue to be plentifully illustrated. We cull these choice samples from the galaxy daily offered for our inspection by the Press, and we hardly know which to admire most—the noble contempt for restraint in the masculine creature when roused, or the magnificent breadth of the hypocrisy with which he contemplates the "violence" of his mate when she is roused.

A news agency representative states:—

The police were attacked from all sides. Stones and bottles were hurled at them from the side streets, and the mob got hold of pick-axes and attempted to hack up the tramway setts for the purpose of using the large stones as ammunition. In a number of places the paving of the streets was uprooted, and the mob, arming themselves with the large stones, ran down the side streets throwing the missiles at the constables. The police made baton charges over and over again, but the crowd quickly dispersed, only to reassemble at other points.

From this time onward disorder reigned in all the narrow thoroughfares. Baton charges had to be ordered at frequent intervals. The police had a most unpleasant experience in Mercer's-street, where pickaxes were brought by the mob to uproot the tramway setts. Some twenty or thirty police rushed down upon them. Flying helter-skelter into Cuff-street before the oncoming batons, the rioters had stones and bricks handed to them by the women. Then they steadied themselves for action, and showers of stones came down on the heads of the police, who found it most difficult to advance before the deadly fire of bottles, bricks, and stones which fell in amongst them from all sides.

Many of the constables sustained scalp wounds through their helmets, and were ordered back out of the firing-line. This temporary victory gave courage to the mob, who advanced in fighting array. The inspector in charge again got his force ready, facing the howling mob with drawn batons. A fierce encounter ensued, the women again assisting the rioters by bringing them stones and bottles. The police, however, had learned a lesson.

Similar scenes were witnessed in other thoroughfares. An inspection of the district by daylight revealed the damage done to property. In the main tramway thoroughfares there was scarcely a window to be seen that was not smashed, and large numbers of the shops were boarded up. The rioters did not stop at such destruction, as several of the shops were looted.

St. Peter's Church (Protestant), Aungier-street, was an object of the rioters' attention. Yesterday morning the yard inside the railings was littered with bricks and stones. Despite a strong wire netting, the beautiful stained-glass oriel window in the front was broken in three or four places. The window was one of the most perfect specimens of stained-glass work in Dublin, and cost £700.

Fragments of the broken glass were scattered over the altar steps and sanctuary. Fortunately the wire netting was not broken, and many of the missiles rebounded without doing further injury. In High-street the rioters, on Sunday evening, smashed the windows of the Catholic Presbytery.

During the night the Glamorgans were called out to disperse demonstrations by strikers outside the residences of employers who had been threatened. At the Halviggan clay works an attack was made by a body of strikers on the engine-house, and the police on duty were struck by men armed with sticks.

Many of the injured in yesterday's riot are under surgical treatment, and a cripple, aged twenty, who was in the crowd and received severe injuries, has been removed to the cottage hospital.

C. NINA BOYLE.

PLEASE MENTION "THE VOTE" WHEN ORDERING GOODS.

PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

"The Children's Courts."

"It is understood that the reconstruction of Marylebone Police-court will include the provision of special accommodation for a children's court. The hope is entertained among social workers and legal reformers here that this incident may lead the way towards a reconsideration of the whole question of children's courts in the London police district. Some years ago, when Mr. Herbert Samuel was at the Home Office as Under-Secretary, a good deal of time and labour was given to a scheme for the division of London into districts, each containing a special court exclusively for juvenile offenders. The Treasury objected to the heavy expenditure which the reform would necessarily entail, and the London magistrates were not disposed to look favourably upon a scheme which limited their jurisdiction. The result was the defeat of Mr. Samuel's hopes, and temporary arrangements were made to enable the magistrates to hold special sittings for hearing children's cases. But the main intention of the reformers—to remove the children from the neighbourhood and atmosphere of the police-courts—was entirely frustrated, and an opportunity was lost which may not recur for some years."

We commend the above extract, reprinted verbatim from cuttings sent to us, to all those persons who are so fond of rebuking Suffragists and telling them that the reforms they ask for are being given or will be given. In the year of the Stockholm International Alliance Conference we recollect a social reform worker from Holland expressing the greatest contempt and disappointment after she had been admitted to a sight of the workings of the much-vaunted Children's Court in London. It has taken two years for it to dawn on some person or persons, through whom it has trickled tardily through to the public *via* the Press, that no real provision for delinquent children has been made, and that whatever arrangement is in existence is preposterously inadequate. Money, it appears, is grudged for a complete scheme—money which can be poured out lavishly and wastefully on salaries for statesmen, incomes for members of Parliament, remuneration for all the people who allow these scandals to remain on our administration; it can be found for almost anything except such trifling matters as the protection of the life of the nation. Our Special Reporter at the Criminal Courts brought us to-day an account of a sickening incident, the trial at the Old Bailey Criminal Assizes of a lad of 14 for indecent assault on a girl of 13. It is almost incredible that the time and attention of a judge and jury should have been claimed for a case of this nature. Filthy-minded little boys and girls will be none the less filthy-minded for dealing in loathsome details of their filthiness in a court crowded with men, a court in which ribald comment is often heard both from Bench and Bar; a court, moreover, from which women were excluded, our Special Correspondent herself being refused entry.

The incredible impropriety of all this is only equalled by its crude ineptitude. The courts where prevails this spirit of sex bias and of grandmotherly protection for those who need no protection, while those that need it go unprotected from moral and physical contamination, it is no wonder that the women who know despair of seeing justice administered. From the woman in fear of her husband, who is told she can have no protection until he injures her; from the outraged mother who has appealed to the Women's Freedom League representative to stand by her child in the court from which she herself, in that child's direst need, is excluded; from the wretched street-walker, sent to three months' hard labour for solicitation while the rich male clients of Queenie Gerald and others have their anonymity protected by the Cabinet and the Bench; from Mrs. McCann, robbed by her husband of the baby at her breast and finding no law and no tribunal to which she can appeal; from the poor girl who applied vainly to the London County Council and to Mr. Mead to get her child away from the woman who had been paid to keep it and who, having "become attached to it," refuses to give it up and is taking it to France. From all of these outraged, injured, insulted, and wronged women and others countless in

like predicaments, comes a great cry for justice and real protection for themselves and their children. They can only get it from their own sex.

IMPERTINENCES!

The studied impertinences of Mr. Harold Owen have supplied matter for an article which our Editor was good enough to publish over my signature; and it has inspired me with an idea which I have not yet seen carried out elsewhere. No day passes without some evidence being forced on us of the impertinent attitude of governing man towards woman, as illustrated in his laws, his administration, his literature and journalism, his social conventions, and his religion. And these impertinences are so taken for granted that they frequently pass without comment; many women not being yet awake to the fact that they are impertinences, do not resent them. When some of them do so awake, and resent the affront, a struggle ensues in which every imaginable insult is heaped upon the "revolting" women in the attempt to make them sit down and hold their tongues and continue to endure the impertinences. I propose, therefore, to give, if the Editor will consent to allow me so to deal with her sacred columns, a few lines from week to week illustrating my point from the Press, current literature, and the administration of the law.

There is nothing so likely to bring this point home to the modern girl or woman as to put her through a course of old-fashioned novels. The advice forced on the young women in these works as to the correct behaviour for them, the estimate of their duty and their value to society, the moralisations at their expense, and the sentiments put into their mouths, all display the grossest and coarsest impertinence in the point of view—a point of view from which women have been steadily rebelling ever since it has been safe for them to do so without being subjected to physical indignities, violence, or restraint for so rebelling. One does not like to think of what this meddling impertinence must have meant to the high-spirited girl of a by-gone generation, until time and constraint had fashioned her to the dreary mould required by convention. Some idea of it may be obtained in that most tragic of all stories, the life history of the women of the Wesley family, which constitutes one of the most shameful blots on the social and religious history of the day. That men should so deal with women, yet still be the sainted leaders of a great religious movement, appears at times in the light of a colossal jest. I have never read that painful story without a headache that lasted for days. But besides its horror of maddening pain and misery, it is the impertinence of it all that most stirs one's blood.

John Stuart Mill remarks upon the habit of imagining woman to be a creature who cannot behave unless constrained by man. This from the sex that supplies us with the bulk of our criminals, drunkards, sexual abnormalities; that inaugurated wars, persecutions, slavery, piracy, trusts, party politics, and army contract scandals, is in very truth the height of impertinence. C. NINA BOYLE.

INSURANCE ACT PERSECUTION.

The Women's Freedom League

will hold a

DEMONSTRATION

in TRAFALGAR SQUARE,

SATURDAY, Sept. 13, 3.30 p.m.

Speakers: Mrs. DESPARD, Mr. GEORGE LANSBURY, Miss NINA BOYLE, Mr. JOHN SCURR, Mr. H. W. NEVINSON, and others.

ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Response of Woman to Her Call To-Day. By Arthur W. Robinson, D.D. (Longmans, Green and Co. Price 6d. net.)

From the title, "The Response of Woman to Her Call To-Day" and the profession of its author, we were led to expect an authoritative pronouncement upon the response woman is making to her call, or advice as to what that response should be. Judged from either standpoint, we find the address inadequate and disappointing. We think it would have been of more real help if its author, as a religious leader, had forced himself to face unflinchingly the answers to his own questions. "If the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?" However, it is only just to Dr. Robinson to say that this address "is printed in deference to the strongly-expressed wish of those who heard it."

The Enfranchisement of Women: Freedom, the Fundamental Condition of Morality. By J. H. Levy. (The Personal Rights Association. Price 1d. each.)

Part I. of the pamphlet on the Enfranchisement of Women records a speech delivered on April 26, 1892, in St. James's Hall; Part II., a correspondence upon "Woman's Suffrage and Physical Force" between Mr. J. H. Levy and Mr. W. C. H. Church. "Freedom, the Fundamental Condition of Morality" deals with State-regulated Prostitution. Both pamphlets should be read by those who wish to become acquainted with the subjects discussed in them.

The Kingdom That is to Be. By Hatty Baker. (Miss Hatty Baker, 25, Hartington-villas, Hove. Price 1d.)

In the form of a conversation "with a good and sincere, but more or less unthinking Churchwoman," Miss Hatty Baker unfolds, in simple language, the meaning of the struggle women are making for their political freedom.

The "Fabian Tract" No. 168 is devoted to a biography of that friend of the emancipation of women, John Stuart Mill. The author is a forcible writer, and he has handled his subject in an efficient manner. (Price 2d.)

In No. 167 of the series Mrs. Townshend writes sympathetically of *William Morris and the Communist Ideal.*

The Rise of Democracy. By Joseph Clayton, M.A. (Cassell and Co. Library of Modern Knowledge.)

The great merit of this book is that, although it is history, it is alive and human. The style is simple and most readable; the matter as fascinating as a novel; to me even more so; because it is true. I found it of absorbing interest, and read it breathlessly from end to end. Then I wished there were more of it, and still hope the author will one day give us a much fuller version. If I entirely disagree with some of the deductions and conclusions as summed up in the last chapters—well, we all know the task of the prophet is difficult and unthankful, and I am going to pass on lest I also should be tempted to momentarily assume the role.

The book shows the existence in England from the earliest times of the democratic spirit, and briefly traces its progress and various outbursts through the centuries down to very nearly the present time. No doubt is left in our minds that the love of, and desire for, liberty is part of the English character, and it is, I think, clearly shown that we are ever struggling forward towards the possibility of greater individual expansion and security, limited only by the same possibilities for all. The earlier struggles are carefully and sympathetically recorded, many interesting facts noted, and their significance shown; the comments being always of the highest interest, for example:—

"The only two principles that are apparent in the age-long struggles for political freedom in England are: (1) That which touches all shall be approved by all; (2) government rests on the consent of the governed."

"Every step forward is followed by reaction, but the ground lost is recovered, and the next step taken marks always a steady advance. Over and over again it has seemed that all the liberties won in the past were lost, but looking back we can see that there has been no lasting defeat of liberty. Only for a time have the forces of oppression triumphed; it is soon found impossible in England to rest under tyranny or to govern without the consent of the governed."

That there is much interesting matter to Women Suffragists in this book by a champion of the women's cause may be judged by the following extracts which, among others, will be especially useful to speakers in the movement:—

"The extension of the franchise" is "necessary whenever a body of people excluded from the electorate . . ." is . . . conscious of being unrepresented, and desires representation."

"The poorer citizens *were* voteless," therefore the "plan was to levy the tallages per head, and not in proportion to the property of the inhabitants." This was in 1196, but reminds me of . . . really our ministers have made very little advance, and after so many years of popular education, too.

"Women are convinced there can be no adequate adjustment of these unequal relations until they enjoy the same privilege of citizenship; for enfranchisement and representation are the two chosen instruments of democratic government in our day."

"Just because legislation is . . . invading our homes and . . . touching the lives of all from the cradle to the grave, the more imperative it is that our legislators should be chosen freely by the widest electorate of men and women," and I, personally, would add, "and just as widely and freely from among women as men." LEAH ANSON.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

Canada.

As forecasted some time ago in *The Canadian Mail*, Women's Suffrage is to be adopted in Calgary. The City Council have now decided to amend the City Charter so as to give votes for women. Ability to read the second reader in use in Alberta schools will be a qualifying condition for every voter.

"Down Tools."

A strike of wives is the latest innovation marking the progress of Suffragetteism in the United States. It has taken the form of the following threat, issued by the women of Wisconsin, as the result of the refusal of the State Board of Arbitration to permit representatives of Woman Suffrage to have a booth at a State fair, to be opened next week: "Unless this decision is withdrawn we shall boycott the fair and cease to perform the following wifely duties:—To collect the laundry, set the alarm clock, cook meals, wash dishes, sweep floors, dust furniture, fasten windows, put out the gas, darn socks, or shine our husbands' shoes."

The Enemy in Michigan.

Speaking of the recent defeat of Woman Suffrage in Michigan, Mrs. Maud Wood Park told the Massachusetts Woman Suffrage Association that "the amendment was lost because the Suffragists had not organisation enough to withstand the tremendous fight made by the well-organised liquor interest. The fight waged by the liquor men was really terrific. They fought Suffrage directly, but also and much more indirectly. They assured the farmers that if the amendment carried they would have no more market for their barley and rye, because there would be no more beer and whisky made. They argued to the Church people that Woman Suffrage would make things wet rather than dry. They sent men to talk to the farmers throughout the State, and to the operatives in the factories, and they flooded the State with Anti-Suffrage literature."

Excluded by Sex in Italy.

Several months ago the Minister of the Treasury in Rome announced an open competitive examination for the coveted position of engraver of money. Sixteen people presented themselves, among whom was one woman, Mme. Lancelot Croce, a Frenchwoman by birth, but an Italian by marriage. She was allowed to sit for the preliminary examination, passed with distinction, and was among the seven successful candidates to enter for the final. Upon presenting herself for the final examination (says *The Standard*) she was excluded on account of her sex, although it was acknowledged that her work was such that her prospect of being the successful candidate was practically assured. Also at an exhibition of the competitors' work which followed the examination, hers was conspicuous by its absence. Italian feminists took up the case and secured the services of the Marquis Lucifero, who brought the question of Mme. Croce's exclusion before the Chamber of Deputies. The matter was laid before the Council of State, but the decision has been adverse to Mme. Croce.

A Chinese Reader.

Mrs. Chang, niece of President Yuan-shi-Kai, who was recently baptised into the Christian Church at Shanghai, is a splendid example of modern Feminism in the Far East, says *The Standard*. When only fifteen years old, an age at which most English girls are reading light literature, Mrs. Chang was eagerly assimilating Western culture, and reading extensively the works of Carlyle, Spencer and John Stuart Mill.

Her marriage with Mr. Chang, also a keen scholar, quickened still more her desire for learning, and when Dr. Sun Yat Sen, who is her great personal friend, wrote from England and suggested that they should both enter as students at Aberdeen University, she carried out the suggestion eagerly and quickly.

While in Great Britain she evinced great interest in the question of women's enfranchisement, but concentrated much of her time on the study of various educational systems. Illiteracy being so great a problem in her own country, Mrs. Chang is devoting herself entirely to educational work among women and girls, and will leave the question of feminine participation in public affairs to a future date, when women are educated enough to understand the responsibilities and duties that the vote entails.

Suffrage Plays.

New Suffrage plays have been seen in London and New York. Recently, at the King's Hall, London, under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League, *The Better Half*, by Miss Alison Garland, was given; its wit and wisdom made a strong appeal. It is the present position turned topsy-turvy; women only possess the vote and legislate in the homeland, because government is an extended form of housekeeping, and men, agitating for votes, eventually succeed.

In New York, according to *The Daily Mail's* correspondent, the latest Suffrage play is entitled "2013"; it is written by Mrs. Christian Hemmick, and was performed in Washington for the benefit of the Cause. It represents the world as the author expects it to be a hundred years hence, when kisses and skirts will long have been abandoned, when members of both sexes will parade in Oriental trousers, and when couples bent on matrimony will approach the altar armed with personal health certificates.

WELSH CAMPAIGN.

The residents and visitors of Aberystwyth attended our last meeting of the campaign on Monday morning in large numbers. Many of the Oldham people who had heckled us so severely on the Saturday evening testified their appreciation and sympathy by buying and wearing the badge. As we left for the station the last words we heard were, "Come back again soon." On Monday evening we paid a return visit to Machynlleth, where an orderly and interested meeting awaited us. Newtown we tackled for the third time on Tuesday evening. In spite of a "Scotch mist" a very large audience gathered, and listened with much appreciation to Miss Alix Clark's exposition of the aims, policy, and methods of the League.

ANNA MUNRO.

The local paper, *Montgomery County Times*, gives a most sympathetic account of the Newtown meeting, and of Miss Munro's clever and apt replies to the many queries addressed to her. There is also a long account of a disgracefully rowdy meeting at Llandilloes, where our indefatigable workers received most violent treatment. The following extracts give an idea of the scene, which Miss Clark, however, declares to have been less objectionable than the Pwllheli incidents.

"Before the meeting commenced, two men impersonating the Premier and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, marched up and down the streets, followed by a large crowd, and it was evident that mischief was brewing.

"Owing to being unable to get the loan of a wagonette as a platform, large beer barrels were utilised for the purpose, and from these Miss Clark and Miss Munro attempted to speak. Miss Munro succeeded in speaking for about three-quarters of an hour, but owing to the continuous noise that was maintained she was inaudible to many.

"An attempt was afterwards made to knock the speaker off the barrels by rolling them, and once or twice Miss Munro slipped, but quickly got up again. The yelling and hooting increased in volume, and on account of the dangerous rushes that were being made, the police forced a way for the ladies into the Trewythen Hotel. The police lined up in front of the hotel windows, the crowd all the time kicking up a dreadful noise. The stationmaster and Superintendent Williams consulted together, and the speakers were told it would not be wise for them to await the mail train as the station approaches are so open, and the crowd might damage the station as well as do the ladies themselves injury.

"Mr. E. V. Davies consented to drive them as far as Llandinam in his motor-car, and as soon as the intention became known there was a rally among the rowdies. With great difficulty the police got the Suffragists safely into the car, but a determined attempt was made to upset it, and in the rush P.C.'s Burton and Rees were knocked down, and sustained cuts about the hands and face. Mr. Davies was nearly pulled away from the driving-wheel, but succeeded in negotiating the car through the crowd, and getting clean away, a parting volley of rotten apples being fired after the occupants. The two speakers caught the train at Llandinam, and reached Newtown safely."

Our thanks are due to the kind friends who risked injury to help the women; and we wish to acknowledge the splendid support of Mr. Busch-Michell, who was assaulted by a gang of roughs, and narrowly escaped harm at their hands. Another meeting is to be held on the spot.

C. N. B.

Chapter 3

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SCOTTISH CAMPAIGN.**Kilmarnock and District.**

Organiser: Miss ADA BROUGHTON.

An excellent and peaceful meeting took place at Kilmarnock on Monday last. Miss Broughton was assisted in the speaking by Miss Kate MacLean, of Kilbirnie, who in her address referred to the strike of the Kilbirnie fish girls. After the meeting was closed, the local members and their friends adjourned to the L.L.P. rooms in Waterloo Hall, where a short business meeting was held to discuss plans for future work.

After holding another successful meeting at Troon the following afternoon, the organiser travelled to Stewarton in the evening to fulfil her promise to conduct another meeting in that town before leaving the district. The audience again accorded the speaker an attentive hearing. During question time a little girl in the crowd put several intelligent questions to the speaker, which proved that even the children are eager to understand our movement.

The local members have been encouraged and strengthened by the organiser's visit to their town, and they are looking forward with pleasure to the forthcoming visit of Miss Eunice Murray, whom they hope to welcome to their branch on Thursday, September 18. Several new members were enrolled during the week. Thanks are due to those members who had in any way contributed to make the meetings successful ones.

Paisley.

On Wednesday the organiser took her departure from Kilmarnock for Paisley. Here she found the members eager to give her every assistance. Previous to holding a branch meeting, which the secretary had arranged in order to give the members an opportunity of welcoming the organiser to their town, an open-air meeting took place in the Abbey Close. In her address the speaker outlined the policy of the W.F.L., and appealed to the women present to associate themselves with the Suffrage movement, and she invited all who could to join them in the Central Hall, where the branch meeting would be held immediately after this one was brought to a close. Several women responded by promising to join the League.

At the branch meeting plans were discussed for holding a series of open-air meetings during the coming week. It was also decided to make the attempt to hold dinner-hour meetings at the different factories.

On Saturday afternoon a very excellent meeting was held once more in the Abbey Close. On this occasion the organiser was well assisted by Miss Sheinann, of Glasgow, who spoke most eloquently for a considerable time; and Miss Steven, also of Glasgow, superintended the sale of THE VOTE. Over six dozen VOTES were sold, besides other Suffrage literature, and a fair collection was taken. Several inquiries were made by women respecting the League holding its branch meetings as they would like to attend some of them. One young woman, who had previously heard the organiser at Saltcoats, came to the meeting in order to enroll herself as a member.

WOMEN ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

The Women's Local Government Society has issued a leaflet which shows that the number of women serving on local authorities increases steadily, though slowly.

The greatest increase is in the number of women Guardians, of whom there are now 1,536 in England and Wales, as against 1,323 a year ago. The total number of Guardians is about 25,000, so women form rather more than 6 per cent. of all the Guardians—not a large proportion. The recent increase is in part due to a special effort made by the Society from last November onwards to arouse interest within the area of those Poor Law Unions which had no women on the Board of Guardians. These Unions numbered 235. They were mostly rural, and it was therefore fitly urged that women were wanted, not only for the best administration of the Poor Law, but also as Rural District Councillors for the sake of better sanitation and housing. In fifty-five of the areas in question one or more women were elected last April.

The secretary, Miss Berry, has prepared a complete list of the women Guardians in England and Wales, with their addresses, information whether or not elections are triennial, &c. The Society is indebted to the clerks to the Guardians for their courtesy in supplying information as to the election of women as Rural District Councillors and as Guardians. The Society asks the aid of the Press in appealing to the public for information as to elections of women as Parish Councillors. The number of Parish Councils in England and Wales being 7,213, the cost of conducting a systematic inquiry is more than the Society can afford, and there are no official returns.

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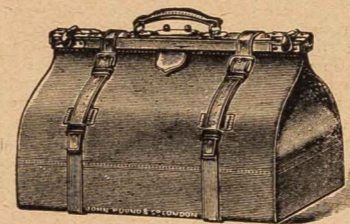
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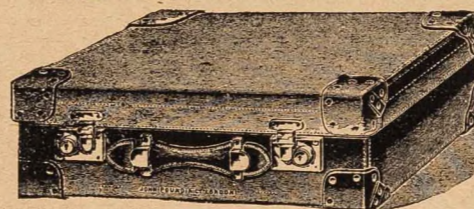
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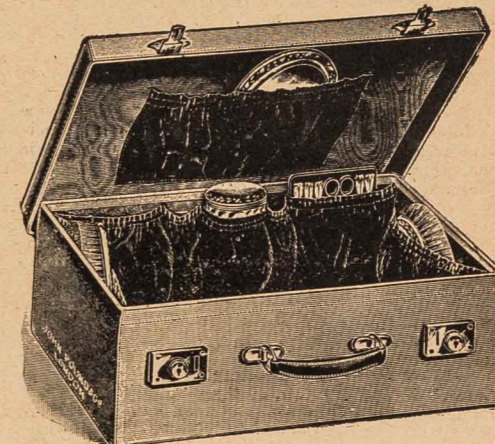
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211, Regent Street, W. 67, Piccadilly, W.

243, Brompton Rd., S.W. 177-8, Tottenham Court Rd., W.

81-84, LEADENHALL STREET, E.C.

SUCCESSFUL FLOWER-MAKING.

It will probably surprise most people to learn that the floral decorations of the *Medina*, in which the King and Queen sailed to India, and the artificial flowers used at the Durbar were not produced in France. It will surprise them still more to discover that they were made at a Girls' Club in London. Two years ago the Mayfair Working Girls' Club, at 98, Charlotte-street, Fitzroy-square, decided to start an evening class for the purpose of instructing members in the making of artificial flowers. It was a daring experiment. The girls themselves, as far as was known, had no natural aptitude for this industry, and the decision to produce only the very finest work involved competition with the French producer, who had hitherto possessed an absolute monopoly in the artificial flower market. There was, too, a firmly rooted idea that no good thing of this kind could come from anywhere but Paris. Nevertheless, after two years the experiment may be pronounced an unqualified success. The girls have shown an astonishing ability and innate artistic sense. Last year they made £700 worth of flowers of unsurpassed quality. They have had to face difficulties and scepticism, but visitors to the Exhibition of their work at Messrs. Debenham and Freebody's, Wigmore-street, W., found convincing proof of the success of a new British industry which is the work of girls.

"ALWAYS A WOMAN."

Mr. Raymond Blathwayt, discussing in *The Standard*, "Femininity on the Stage," observed: "It is declared that an actor has greater versatility and a wider range at his command than any woman could possibly achieve, but when we think of Mrs. Kendal's heroine in *The Queen's Shilling*, and then of her delightful Rosalind, and of Miss Vanbrugh's playing the Columbine in Gilbert's *Fairy's Dilemma*, and the rough, tragic peasant woman of the Basque Province in the *Arm of the Law*, or listen to her Bowery accent as Ann Jeffries in the present play, we begin to doubt the sincerity or the fairness of the diatribes against feminine versatility on the stage."

Miss Violet Vanbrugh made answer to him thus: "A woman can express the quality of her sex in an indefinable manner as no masculine writer could dream of attempting. I realise exactly what the heroine went through in *The Walls of Jericho*. I sympathise with Lady Macbeth, and I am absolutely at one with Ann Jeffries to-night, and yet I have been neither a queen nor a Bowery girl. It is our common womanhood from which there is no escape. I am always amused when men declaim against the tendency of this age as being destructive of real womanhood. Whether a woman is breaking hearts or post office windows, she is always woman."

KINDRED SOCIETIES.**Actresses' Franchise League, 2, Robert-street, Strand, W.C.**

On Miss Bourne's resignation of the hon. secretaryship of the A.F.L., owing to her absence in America with Sir Johnstone Forbes-Robertson on his farewell, the following letter has been sent to her by members of the executive committee:—

"My dear Miss Bourne,—We, the members of the committee of the A.F.L., feel that we should like to try and express to you before we part our very deep sense of regret at losing you from the hon. secretaryship of the League. We want to thank you in the name of the Actresses' Franchise League for the immense amount of self-sacrificing work you have done for the League, and through the League for the cause of all women. We know that in saying this we are voicing the opinion of all our members.

"We wish you good fortune in your future, and look forward to the time when you are once more able to give your splendid services to the League you founded.—Yours in comradeship,

(Signed) MAY WRITTY (Chair).

VICTORIA ADDISON.
NINA BOUTICAULT.
MADELINE LUCETTE RYLEY.
ELIZABETH FAGAN.
JANETTE STEER.

The Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage.

Two meetings of this new federation have been held in Edinburgh, at which its success was assured by the zeal and enthusiasm of the members, who one and all expressed their intention of working for the Cause. These men, many of whom were members of the Scottish Deputation insulted by Mr. Asquith, are determined to do much more than merely express their convictions on the subject of Women's Suffrage, they are prepared to sacrifice time and money.

It was agreed that a great mass meeting be held in the Synod Hall on Friday, November 14, in which Glasgow, which promises to have a strong centre, would be asked to take part. Guarantees towards the expense of this large meeting were immediately offered by members of the Federation. Open-air meetings will be held frequently in the different constituencies of the city, and an indoor meeting once a month.

The Federation is open to voters only—men who are determined that their views on Women's Suffrage shall be no longer ignored. The Federation has adopted a non-party and anti-Government policy.


NANNIE BROWN, Hon. Sec. to the Federation (Midlothian Centre).

Suffrage Atelier.

An exhibition of banners and needlework by members of the Atelier was held on Saturday, at the Westminster Teashop, 17, Tothill-street. Among many interesting and beautiful exhibits may be mentioned a large and handsome banner designed by Miss Ethel Cohen for the Jewish League, which is being worked by Mrs. Herbert Cohen; two needlework pictures by Mrs. Watson, a banner by Mrs. Ambrose Gosling bearing a figure of St. Albans, a large reproduction in applique of Leighton's "Flaming June," and two banners designed by Mr. Laurence Housman and worked by Miss Clemence Housman, one of which will be on view at the office of the Suffrage Atelier, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.


DARE TO BE FREE.

Fri., Sept. 12.—**BATTERSEA**, Prince's Head, 7.30 p.m. Caravan Meeting. *Speaker:* Mrs. Despard.

Sat., Sept. 13.—**TRAFALGAR-SQUARE**, 3.30. Demonstration of Protest against the vindictive sentence passed on Mrs. Harvey. *Speakers:* Mrs. Despard, Mr. George Lansbury, Miss Nina Boyle, Mr. John Scurr, Miss Amy Hicks, M.A., Mr. H. W. Nevinson, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mr. Mark Wilks, Mrs. Nevinson, Mr. Harry de Pass, Mrs. Tippett, Mrs. Tanner, Miss Munro, and Mrs. Sproson.

Sun., Sept. 14.—**HYDE PARK**, noon. Mrs. Sproson and Mrs. Nourse. **REGENT'S PARK**, noon. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Hyde. **BROCKWELL PARK**, 11.30 a.m.

Mon., Sept. 15.—**CAXTON HALL**, Westminster. W.F.L. Reunion, 8 p.m. Short speeches by Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Schofield Coates, Mrs. Tippett, and others. Refreshments. Admission free.

Tues., Sept. 16.—**CORNER BLACKBURN-ROAD AND WEST END-LANE** (near West Hampstead Station, Met.), 8.15 p.m. Mrs. Merville Meyer.

Wed., Sept. 17.—**BROMLEY MARKET SQUARE**, 7.30. Protest Meeting.

Thurs., Sept. 18.—**HIGHBURY CORNER**, 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard.

Fri., Sept. 19.—**KATHARINE-STREET**, CROYDON, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. E. M. N. Clark.

Sun., Sept. 21.—**HYDE PARK**, noon. **REGENT'S PARK**, noon. Miss Boyle and Miss Rogers. **BROCKWELL PARK**, 11.30. Mrs. Tanner.

Mon., Sept. 22.—**CORNER PORTOBELLO-ROAD AND BLENHEIM-CRESCENT**, KENSINGTON, 8 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle. **BOWES PARK BRANCH MEETING**, 34, Highworth-road, New Southgate, 7.30 p.m. **Bromley Market Square**, 7.30. Protest Meeting.

Tues., Sept. 23.—**CORNER BLACKBURN-ROAD AND WEST END-LANE** (near West Hampstead Station, Met.), 8.15 p.m. Miss Helen Norman, B.A.

Wed., Sept. 24.—**CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING**, 3.30 p.m. Laurence Housman, Esq., on "The Rights of Majorities," and Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Huntsman. Admission free.

Thurs., Sept. 25.—**CROYDON "AT HOME"**, 3.30. Mrs. E. M. Moore on "Elizabeth Fry." **HIGHBURY CORNER**, 8 p.m.

Fri., Sept. 26.—**KATHARINE-STREET**, CROYDON, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Tanner.

Sun., Sept. 28.—**HYDE PARK**, noon. **REGENT'S PARK**, noon. Mrs. Mustard and Mrs. Hyde. **BROCKWELL PARK**, 11.30 a.m.

Tues., Sept. 30.—**CORNER BLACKBURN-ROAD AND WEST END-LANE** (near West Hampstead Station, Met.), 8.15 p.m. Mrs. Mustard.

Wed., Oct. 1.—**CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING**, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard on "The Policy and Work of the W.F.L.," and J. CAMERON GRANT, Esq., on "Economic Wrongs of the Employer and Employed." Chair: Miss Boyle. Admission Free.

Fri., Oct. 3.—**KATHARINE-STREET**, CROYDON, 7.30 p.m.

Sun., Oct. 5.—**HYDE PARK**, noon. **REGENT'S PARK**, noon.

Mon., Oct. 6.—**CAXTON HALL**, WESTMINSTER, 8 p.m. LECTURE by Mrs. WALTER GALLICIAN on "Woman in her Relationship to Man." Admission by ticket, 6d. and 1s., from W.F.L. Office.

Tues., Oct. 7.—**MID-LONDON BRANCH MEMBERS' QUARTERLY MEETING**, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, 7.45 p.m.

Wed., Oct. 8.—**CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING**, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. E. M. MOORE on "A Woman's Utopia." Admission Free.

Wed., Oct. 15.—**CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING**, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. NOTT BOWER on "Heroines of the French Revolution." Admission Free.

Mon., Oct. 20.—**CAXTON HALL**, 8 p.m. LECTURE by LAURENCE HOUSMAN, Esq., on "Petticoat Government."

Wed., Oct. 22.—**CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING**, 3.30. Surgeon-General G. J. H. EVATT, C.B., on "The Life and Work of Florence Nightingale."

Tues., Nov. 4.—Dramatic Version of "Hiawatha," by K. HARVEY (in aid of "The Vote"), Cripplegate Institute, two minutes' walk from Aldersgate-street Station (Metropolitan Railway), 8 p.m. and 8 p.m.

PROVINCES.

Fri., Sept. 12.—**SOUTHAMPTON**, Morris Hall, Commercial-street, 8 p.m. Public Meeting. *Speaker:* Miss Boyle. *Chair:* Mrs. Petroman. Admission Free.

Thurs., Sept. 18.—**LIVERPOOL**, Dewhurst's Café, South-road, Waterloo, 7.45 p.m., Speakers' Class. Mrs. McCullie, "Fallacies of the Antis."

Mon., Sept. 22.—**GRAVESEND**, 10, Cobham-street, 8 p.m., Branch Meeting.

Wed., Sept. 24.—**CHESTER**, Brown's Auction Room, 8 p.m. Monthly Public Meeting. *Speaker:* Miss Andrews.

Tues., Oct. 7.—**MIDDLESBROUGH**, Town Hall, 8 p.m. Public Meeting. *Speakers:* Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mr. Henry Harben. *Chair:* Mrs. Despard.

Wed., Oct. 8.—**MIDDLESBROUGH**, Hinton's Café, "At Home." *Speaker:* Mrs. Despard.

SCOTLAND.

Fri., Sept. 12.—**JOHNSTONE**, 7.30 p.m. Open-air Meeting. *Speaker:* Miss A. Broughton.

Sat., Sept. 13.—**PAISLEY**, Abbey Close, 3.30 p.m. Open-air Meeting. *Speakers:* Miss Shennan and Miss Broughton.

WHETHER THE SUN SHINES OR THE RAIN DESCENDS, you will do well to visit Messrs. A. and P. Kuchemann, 1, Arundel-place, Coventry-street, London, W. (near the top of the Haymarket), and supply yourselves with both sunshade and umbrella. You may be sure of excellent value for your money, and an old umbrella can be re-covered for 3s. 6d. or mended while you wait.

BRANCH NOTES.

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly on ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, THE VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.

NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Croydon.—Office, 32A, The Arcade, High-street.

As Mrs. Harvey is a member of the Croydon Branch, it is expected that all Croydon members who can possibly be in Trafalgar Square on September 13 at 3.30 p.m. will join in the protest meeting and support the speakers on that occasion.

Surgeon-General Evatt has kindly promised to come to Croydon to give a lecture on "The Life and Work of Florence Nightingale" on October 30. Particulars of meeting will be announced later.

Mrs. E. M. N. Clark will be the speaker at the open-air meeting on the 19th inst. Will all members be in Katharine-street that evening at 7.30 p.m.?

Any member who can spare some time for needlework should apply to Miss Cook, or the secretary, and thus assist in preparing a stall for the next social.

Kensington.

On Monday we had one of the best outdoor meetings of the season. Mrs. Merville Meyer held the attention of the large audience the whole time, explaining that the well-being of each is necessary to secure the well-being of the whole. Mrs. Mayer analysed the so-called democracy of the legislators, and exposed the fallacy of the politicians who reoff glibly "Government by the people, of the people, for the people." All the numbers of THE VOTE were sold.—A. C. WHITE, Hon Treas.

Mid-London.

Mrs. Tanner addressed an excellent meeting in Regent's Park on Sunday last, September 7. The park was looking its best in the early autumn sunshine, and many were taking advantage of the fine day. Mrs. Tanner delighted her audience, and it would indeed have been difficult to find fault with an address which was admirable both in matter and form. That such was the general opinion was demonstrated at the close of the meeting, when the chairman called for objections. None were forthcoming, and it was evident that the audience was in full accord with the sentiments of the speakers. Mrs. Despard is to be the speaker on Sunday next, September 14, at the same time and place (12 noon near the fountain in the Broad walk).

Stamford-hill and Tottenham.

A very enjoyable garden-party, with good attendance of our friends, took place on Saturday by the kind invitation of Mrs. Harbord. Mrs. Despard's interesting speech was, of course, the most attractive part of the programme, but we had music, recitations, and palmistry afterwards in full swing, and feel very grateful to our kind friends who came to help the cause by providing amusement. A vote of thanks is also due to Mrs. Harbord for her organising powers, which had forgotten nothing, and to Miss Sim as M.C. We hope to have added appreciably to our funds, and that some new members may be gained. Members are reminded herewith to send postcards to the authorities concerning Mrs. Harvey's case.

PROVINCES.—Middlesbrough.

The members of the committee met on Wednesday last at Wilstrap House to arrange a syllabus of meetings for the winter. Arrangements for the Town Hall meeting on October 7 were discussed. The usual weekly Branch meetings in Hinton's Café are to begin next Monday evening, and it is to be hoped that members will turn up in full force, as there is a heavy programme of work before us this winter, and we shall need the strenuous and active support of every member if we are to be successful in our efforts.

Waterloo (Liverpool).

There was a good assembly of members at the opening autumn meeting on September 4 to consider the programme for the first half of the winter session. The programme includes at least three public meetings, a speakers' class, and a whist drive. Last, but not least,

Caister Holiday Camp.

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SUFFRAGETTES IN 1703.

"We are indebted to Mr. John Graham, Montrose, Queen's-road, Bournemouth, and of Findon Cottage, Durham, for the subjoined extract from one of his old books," says *The Newcastle Chronicle*, and adds:—"Mr. Graham calls our attention to a paragraph which we reprinted from *The Westminster Gazette*, showing that Suffragettes existed in the year 1790, and points out that in 1703 there were ladies who claimed equality with the sterner sex. The book is 'Amores Britannici,' by J. Oldmarsh, printed and sold by John Nutt, near Stationers' Hall, 1703.' On pages 147-8 appears 'Countess of Carlisle's letter to Mr. Waller.'

The Soldiers fight and bid the Poets sing,
Warmed by the presence of a mighty King;
Charmed by the Fair and cherished by the Great,
Your fire it quickens and refines your wit.

Your sex have Pensions, dignities and Powers;
Business is yours, you think, and pleasure ours,
As if we ought not in the State to share,
And could not be at once both wise and fair.
Less to our weakness owing, than your pride,
You thought us useless, till our strength was try'd;
Content to hear you flatter us and vain,
Too long we suffered you alone to reign;
Why mayn't my Lady summoned to the Board
As sagely sit and counsel as my Lord?
'Tis hard, you will not let 'em there have room,
Yet yield 'em up the Government at Home.
You find us cunning, to your cost, in Love,
In Court intrigues we may our arts improve,
Tho' Wit and Politics but seldom meet,
Beauty's more necessary there than wit.
You fear by one misfortune, 'tis in vain
To tempt by Politics to use again,
You leave the Court and seek the Myrtle Grove,
And having nothing else to do, you love,
You write, you rhyme, and when the song is done
As easy as it came, your passion's gone,
The Dame's made cruel and the Shepherd true,
A fine employment for a wit, like you.

"NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION."

Miss Marie Lawson asks us to publish the following abridged account of her "snowball" protest, and to correct one or two errors in our last issue. "Latter" was printed for "former" in the second paragraph, and an impression was conveyed that the "snowball" letter was to be anonymous, which is not the case.

Mrs. K. Harvey, of Bromley, has been committed for two months in the second division for non-payment of a Government Tax and for non-compliance with the requirements of the National Insurance Act.

As a declaration against the tyranny of arbitrary taxation, Mrs. Harvey adopted the time-honoured protest of passive resistance—the only form of protest, short of actual violence, that is open to the women of this country. She had to choose between passive resistance and cowardly acquiescence. She chose the former and, as a result, now lies in Holloway Gaol.

You are urgently requested to assist the agitation for her release in two ways:

1. By sending a postcard to the Home Secretary, The Home Office, Whitehall, S.W., protesting against the severity of the sentence and demanding her immediate release.
2. By copying this statement in full and forwarding it to at least three of your friends.

Printed postcards for collecting signatures in support of the protest can be obtained from Miss Lawson on receipt of a stamped envelope.

HYDE-PARK MEETING.

A more than usually large audience listened on Sunday morning to Miss Boyle's convincing arguments. There were a few objectors in the crowd who tried to be facetious at the expense of the speaker, but finding they got a Roland for their Oliver, they soon desisted. Mrs. Hyde presided, and was much gratified to be told later in Trafalgar Square by no less than three persons (one a lady from America, and another from California) how much they had enjoyed listening to the speeches.

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SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

We accept Announcements of Suffrage and kindred Meetings for this Column at the rate per single insertion of 2s. for 24 words, 1d. every additional word; four insertions at the price of three. All Announcements must be Prepaid, and, to ensure insertion, should reach the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, Vote Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, by the First Post on Tuesday Morning.

CAXTON HALL.—Members are requested to attend THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE REUNION, Monday, September 15, at 8 p.m. Short speeches. Refreshments. Admission Free.

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