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THE VOTE
April 2, 1915.
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GIVE THE GIRLS A CHANCE! BY E. PHIPPS, B.A.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

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FRIDAY, APRIL 2, 1915

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.

SPECIAL EDUCATION NUMBER.

ARTICLES BY THE PRESIDENT, VICE-PRESIDENT, AND
OTHER MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF
WOMEN TEACHERS.

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TO ALL MEMBERS:

Wear your Badge. Never go out without it!

HEADQUARTER NOTES.

Easter Campaigns.

During the Easter holidays a Suffrage campaign is being run in South Wales by Miss Alix. M. Clark and Miss Anna Munro. Readers who would like to help are requested to send in their names at once to Miss Alix. M. Clark, 11, Severn-street, Newtown, N. Wales.

"Vote" Selling.

Miss Elsie Hayton will be spending her Easter holiday in Bournemouth, and will take with her several hundred copies of our paper. We hope members who are likely to be in this part of the country will volunteer to help in her street sales, and we urge them to communicate with Miss Hayton, c/o General Post Office, Bournemouth.

More VOTE sellers are needed to sell our paper outside Caxton Hall, Saturday afternoon, April 3, from 2 o'clock, during the Conference of the National Federation of Women Teachers. We are also in need of volunteers to sell our paper in Norwich during the Labour Conference Easter Sunday and Monday.

London Meetings.

We again remind readers that we shall resume our weekly meetings at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Piccadilly, W., Wednesday afternoon, April 14, when the principal speaker will be the Rev. W. Piggott. The chair will be taken at 3.30.

Sunday afternoon, April 18, we shall have a special meeting for members and friends at the Suffrage Club, the speaker being the Rev. Hatty Baker, whose address will be on "The War and After." Discussion will be invited, admission is free, and tea can be obtained at the Club. The following Monday evening, April 19, a meeting for members only will be held at the W.F.L. office at 7 p.m. Light refreshments can be obtained from 6.30 to 7 o'clock.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

SUFFRAGE FIRST.

A Special Appeal.

As Suffragists, we all know that our best service to our country is our demand for citizen rights and duties.

Many calls for money meet us on every hand, but the need of the Women's Freedom League is the most urgent of all.

Ground lost can never be regained.

The public expects a great deal from the Women's Freedom League. All our members and friends must, by their liberal contributions, share in the work and make it possible.

We cannot exist without money, and I would particularly ask every Suffragist to send me as generous a donation as possible NOW.

E. KNIGHT

(Hon. Treasurer).

"GIVE THE GIRLS A CHANCE."

By Miss E. PHIPPS, B.A.,

President of the National Federation of Women Teachers.

It has been the custom to assume that the majority of girls would ultimately marry, and that therefore time and money spent on their education beyond the necessary minimum would be wasted. All that was required by the ordinary girl was the ability to "cook her husband's dinner"—not her own—and, in middle-class homes, to be able to play and sing "a little," so as to amuse her husband in the evenings, and keep him at home.

People holding this conception of girls' education forget two things. They forget first that no fewer than six million girls and women work for gain, and, second, that the purpose of education is not solely to enable its possessor to earn a livelihood, but to enable her to *live*.

Between two and three millions of women never marry. More than a million others, while still young or middle-aged, become widows. The majority of these have to earn their own living, and the six million is made up from the ranks of the married women who, for various reasons, are obliged to supplement the family income, or who desire to do so, or who are in many cases the sole bread-winners.

Careers for women-workers have been in the past very restricted, and to a somewhat less degree are so still. Domestic service, dressmaking, and allied trades, serving in shops, typing, and teaching have been almost the only means of livelihood open to women. No matter how strong a bent a girl may have had in some other direction, she had generally no chance to show it, and if she showed it, no chance to develop it. The catch-phrase "It is not a woman's work" was sufficient; people who use these parrot phrases think they have settled the question—that argument with them is futile, as, indeed, it usually is!

Some education authorities in recent years, however, have given the girls of the working-classes a chance by establishing trade schools. In 1913, London had, exclusive of cookery classes, girls' trade schools in corset making, dressmaking, tailoring, laundrywork, millinery, photography, embroidery, upholstery and waistcoat making. Girl entered between the ages of 14 and 16, and the course lasted two years. This is good as far as it goes, but the fee of 30s. a session is prohibitive to many girls, and the number of scholarships giving free tuition and a maintenance grant is insufficient. Why, too, does "professional cookery (chefs)" appear on the list of trades taught to *boys* only? Is it only the humble domestic kitchen that is "woman's sphere," and not the comparatively easy, interesting, *well-paid* position of the chef? One often hears the assertion that even in their own sphere women are inferior to men; the best cook is a man; the best ladies' tailor is a man. Perhaps so, but the cause is not that generally assumed. Deny a woman the professional training necessary to make a chef, deny to her instruction in the most important part of the tailor's art, that of cutting (as is done by the tailors' trade union), and then turn round and jeer because a woman cannot do as well as a man! Only when girls have had as many opportunities of choosing a career as boys, and as good a training in that career, will it be possible to make any comparison between the capabilities of men and women. And that time is not yet.

Girls, whose parents could afford to keep them at school beyond 14, have as a rule drifted into the teaching profession, with the result that for some

time that profession was overcrowded, and salaries, men's as well as women's, were kept down. Even in this profession, however, the better paid posts have been reserved largely for men. The Federation of University Women deplors the fact of the slow increase of women lecturers at Newnham and Girton. In the Manchester University there are but ten women lecturers, and none on the list of professors, and there are but two women on the list of London University professors.

But during the last few years girls have gradually been forcing their way into other trades and professions. There are about 1,000 medical women in the country—all honour to the women who first literally forced their way into this close preserve, in the teeth of insult from some of the male students. Many of these women doctors, on completing their training, took salaried posts, rather than attempt to build up a private practice in the face of hoary prejudice. The war is giving a fine opportunity to these women. Even the *Times*—the type of that very class of public opinion which called these women "unsexed," and made it impossible for them to risk private practice—recently bemoaned the fact that so many women doctors were in salaried posts, and thus unavailable for general work at a time when so many medical men have gone to the front. Verily, a bad memory and a lack of the sense of humour are a great asset.

High school mistresses would be doing a service to their girls and to the world if they would induce some of their pupils to take up this profession. It needs money and time, but given these two, it is no more difficult than the preparation for teaching.

Dentistry, again, is an attractive career for a girl with good muscular power. There exists in London at least one successful woman dentist, and with the increase of school clinics there will be abundant opportunities for women in this profession.

Girls of good physique, who are fond of outdoor life, have a splendid chance in the study of gardening, for which facilities exist at Swanley, Kent, and elsewhere. Their training finished, they can either set up as market gardeners, or go out by the day as jobbing gardeners, and only those owners of suburban gardens who have suffered from the incapacity and chronic thirst of the ordinary untrained gardener can tell with what joy the advent of a trained, conscientious, artistic woman gardener will be hailed.

Our girls want a chance to *live*, as well as to earn money. There are few more pitiful sights than that of the woman living in a comfortable home, supported by parents or other relatives, with not enough to do, and an inadequate outlet for her energies. She is a slave, hampered by conventionality; she cannot develop on her own lines, or, sadder still, she has no wish to develop. In the former case she must not have any opinions not shared by the male members of her family. She does nothing in life that justifies her claim to be supported by the labour of others. A parasite, she takes all, and gives nothing; she is not permitted to give anything.

Every woman should be capable of earning her living. Every woman, who, with innate powers and capabilities, is denied the chance to develop is a loss to the sum of human knowledge and power. Teachers in girls' schools should do all in their power to prevent their older girls from leaving school merely to stay at home, to "help mother" in the industrial classes, to dust the drawing-room, arrange flowers, and pay calls in the better-off classes.

Opponents of women's economic freedom sometimes say that the ex-business or professional woman

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makes a bad wife and mother. Now, to manage a household successfully requires great organising power, attention to detail, and resourcefulness in emergencies, and other things being equal, the woman whose faculties have been trained, and who has been accustomed to work methodically and carefully, who can arrange the work of a class of children so as to get the best out of every child, who can manage a school so as to get the best out of every teacher, who can deal courteously and firmly with parents, inspectors, customers, employers and errand boys, is the best possible woman to manage a house. A teacher of long experience asserts that in scores of cases she has known of ex-teachers and business women marrying, there has been only one failure, and that failure that could have been foretold. Suppose she has never learnt to cook! What then? A cookery book, her developed intelligence, and a month's practice will easily surmount this difficulty.

We have a long way to go before every girl has the chance to make her own life! Not the least of our difficulties is the prejudice still felt by some men against the idea that a woman can do what he is doing. A woman is not "strong enough" to be a dentist or to put a vote in the parliamentary ballot-box once in every three or four years, but she is quite strong enough to do the week's washing, at the same time cooking the dinner, cleaning the house, and rocking the cradle with her foot, and then, after twelve hours' work, taking her "rest" by mending the family's clothes.

We shall not make much progress until we have the weapon of the parliamentary vote, and every woman teacher will best serve her sex and the race by doing her best, each in her own way, to obtain that hall-mark of citizenship.

THE "ADAPTIBILITY" OF WOMEN.

ANNIE S. BYETT, LL.A.,
Vice-President of the National Federation of
Women Teachers.

Since the Government issued its appeal to women to take the place of men in the industrial world, the newspapers have been busy indicating various avenues of employment, some of them hitherto closed to women. The shop counter, the milking stool, gardening, poultry rearing and farming are obvious openings; but some go farther afield. Great stress is laid on the "adaptability" of women. It is pointed out that teachers, for example, can easily be converted into bank clerks; jewellers can become ammunition workers; dressmakers can be employed on army clothing, saddlery and boots. For many occupations which form a man's life-work we are told women can be trained in "about a fortnight." Women tram conductors, women police, women motor drivers, women bookstall clerks, women ticket sellers, have come into being. Already, says the *Daily News*, thousands of women have enrolled themselves for "war service," apart from the immense organisations of nurses, Red Cross workers, visitors, emergency corps, etc.

Not the least proof of women's adaptability, perhaps, is that they should so quickly adjust themselves to this altered conception of their "place"; after the severe snubbing they have always received whenever they ventured—oh! ever so timidly—to suggest that some of these occupations were really not beyond their powers.

How they have been frowned upon. Yea, verily, from the Kaiser with his three K's (English, three C's,—Church, Cookery, Children) down to the inevitable man at every Suffrage meeting, who was concerned about the speaker's husband, or children, or washing, even when the lady was obviously unmarried, and in a position to ignore laundry bills.

Yes, the war is causing some amazing readjustments of thought. How often in the good old days—bad old days, that seem so long ago now—were we told that women were the "protected" sex. Women must not vote because they were not fighters. Man alone could undertake the risks and dangers of war. Well, there is Belgium, there is the north of France, there is Poland with its five thousand burnt towns and villages. Hundreds of thousands of homeless starving women and children in Europe to-day! There were women and children in Hartlepool and Scarborough. The "protection" theory does not seem to be standing the war test very well!

The *Unequal Pay* believers, too, are receiving some shocks. Women are now implored to do men's work. But they are told if they take less money for doing it they will lower the standard of living for men in the trade, and tend to keep men out. Quite so. That is the point we have continually urged. Perhaps our friends will tell us how—lacking Parliamentary power—women can ensure the "fair wage" clause in Government contracts, where these affect women? At present some of the worst sweaters of women are contractors engaged on Government orders. Are the Trades Unions—is the N.U.T., for instance—going to insist that when a woman takes a man's place she shall receive the man's wage? In other words, is the *work* to be paid for, or the *sex*? It is something gained that the Government should appeal for the women's help. The appeal will not be in vain, but it involves some readjustments; and they should not be to the disadvantage of the women.

Some other readjustments are worth consider-

ing. Fifty years ago our men in the Crimea were dying of cold and hunger and disease, far more than from wounds received in fighting. One woman braved the War Office, the newspapers, public opinion, even the displeasure of her family and friends, to go to their aid. She was called "bold," "unwomanly," "unsexed," and various other epithets. To-day she is revered by the whole world. As a result of her work every belligerent country has an army of capable, devoted women nursing back to health the maimed victims of the war, their services not only valued but regarded as indispensable. At first they were employed only at the base hospitals; but now the army doctors want them on ambulance trains as near the front as possible, "because the psychological effect of their presence is so beneficial to their patients."

It is not very long since the first women doctors underwent the fiery baptism of scorn and derision which every woman pioneer has had to face. To-day, not only is the medical service at home pleading for more women entrants to the profession, but in France and Serbia there are military hospitals entirely staffed by women, where the most dangerous operations are performed with such success, and the percentage of recoveries is so high that the Staff cannot say too much in praise of them. One of the women doctors has received the high compliment of appointment as chief of a great military hospital in England of 500 beds, "or 1,000, if she likes," says Sir Alfred Keogh enthusiastically. As for Tommy's opinion of their work, it is summed up in a letter one wrote from France: "I am in a hospital run entirely by ladies; so you can tell I am well looked after."

We have not yet heard that the D.S.O. has been given to any of the brave nurses who tended their patients under shell fire in Antwerp, Mons and other places; nor to those who are fighting typhoid in Calais, or the more deadly typhus and cholera in Serbia. France has conferred one of her chief military distinctions upon Field-Marshal French—and upon "Sister Julie."

Some of the most violent "Anti" papers have been generously acknowledging the good work of the "Women's Emergency Corps," "Belgian Relief Committees," "Work for Women Fund," "Soldiers' Rest-Houses," "Clubs for Soldiers' and Sailors' Wives, Railway station Canteens, Women Patrols, and innumerable other war activities of women, to say nothing of the stream of "comforts" poured out by the "working parties," the knitting and sewing enthusiasts of whom *Punch* makes much good-humoured fun. (The gratitude of Tommy and Jack have been their sufficient reward. "If any more comforts come aboard this ship she will sink!" wrote one.) But women have been not a little bewildered by the varieties of advice and counsel addressed to them. Whenever the Censor has been more than usually rigid, and no news has filtered through, columns have been filled with appeals to women, some funny, some really pathetic.

"Don't go to theatres and concerts."

"Certainly not; I have no wish to do so."

"But if you don't go to theatres and concerts the artists will starve!"

What are we to do?

"Don't buy new dresses during the war."

"Much prefer not to; more money for the funds."

"But if you don't, drapers and dressmakers will starve!"

"No panic," we are adjured. "Keep calm, even if the Zeppelins come."

Has anyone come across a panic-stricken English-woman yet? The newspapers have been "panicky" once or twice, but not the women.

"Zeppelins," wrote a London girl last autumn, "Everyone says they will come, and everyone adds 'Let them come.' 'Go in the cellar,' said another. *Not I.* I wouldn't miss seeing them for anything."

No, there has been no panic to speak of until the five mile—I mean the five yard—skirt was threatened. That is an appalling prospect if you like!

Again, women must encourage recruiting. They must do everything in their power to make men enlist. Some of them set about doing this according to their light; and the next thing we hear is—

"Idiotic creatures! Presenting men with white feathers! Why don't women attend to their own business," etc.

Rather bewildering, is it not? or would be if we were not so "adaptable!"

"Be bright and cheerful," insist our mentors again. "Nothing helps more than to see the women with smiling, cheerful faces."

So we set about our work as smilingly as we can, even when it goes very much against the grain; but that only brings another outburst.

"Do we realise," thunders the leader writer, "that we are engaged in the most terrible war?" etc.

Yes; we realise. The Belgian women came over here in thousands. Also we can all read. There are the casualty lists day after day, day after day. Those telegrams from the War Office, too, generally come to a woman. There are the graves in the orchards of France and the fields of Flanders. We have heard through the long winter nights the wind that moans over the North Sea. Yes; we realise.

Tommy in the trenches and Jack in the fleet realise also, quite well. Still they laugh and joke. After all, Tommy and Jack did not inherit their spirit from their father only. Sometimes it may be, too, we laugh for the same reason as Figaro, "*de peur d'être obligé d'en pleurer.*"

"I can't tell you," said a friend, "how often this winter I have felt inclined to say 'Thank God for *Punch*.' If England can retain that sane, humorous poise, free from hatred and revenge, she need not fear the effect of the war on the 'morale' of her people."

On the whole, then, it seems to be admitted that women are proving their "adaptability." If you accept the theory of evolution, which Spencer defines as "an adaptation of means to ends," it follows that since the "ends" desired have usually been held by other hands women have been compelled to adapt themselves or perish. Hence adaptability has become a second nature.

"How, dearest?" asks our sweetest woman poet.

"How, dearest, wilt thou have me for most use?"

A hope, to sing by gladly? or a fine

Sad memory, with thy songs to interfuse?

A shade, in which to sing—of palm or pine?

A grave, on which to rest from singing? Choose."

Unloverlike, the Government sternly replies: "Woman must adapt herself industrially. She must share in the conduct of the war directly by giving her labour, by taking the place of potential soldiers." Is it too much to hope that at last woman may be asked to adapt herself *politically* and receive, as a reward of her multifarious ungrudging labours, the recognition of equal citizenship conferred by the Parliamentary vote?

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WOMAN'S RESURRECTION.

AN EASTER SONG.

By S. GERTRUDE FORD.

She is risen, she is risen!

Age after age she lay in her graveyard prison,
Cerements shrouding her, feet and head and hands,
Swathed and bound as a babe in its swaddling-bands,
Now, while dews come the infant morn to christen,
Stirs she, wakes she at last? O look, O listen!
Comes the light to her eyes, to her heart the life,
To her lips the song; she stands where the flowers are rife.
She is risen, she is risen!

She has come, she has come!

She who lay so long where the night-frosts numb
Body and brain and soul to a trance like death:
Come as the morning star, with the morning's breath!
Pined the world for her voice; was she dead or dumb?
Hear her, barrack and brothel and sordid slum!
Comes she not as the Spring, to set all things free?
On to the height, to the might of her throne to be.
She has come, she has come!

She is near, she is here!

O all birds, sing for her! all flowers, wake to hear!
Come like her Son, her Source, for the world's release;
Come to give man his hope, to give earth her peace!
Risen anew she stands, and the red mists clear,
War-clouds break about her, and new stars peer.
Come in His name, whose name is Life, being Love,
Come—in her hand a palm, at her breast a dove,
She is near, she is here!

INHERITED NOTIONS.

By ETHEL A. MCKENZIE.

Roughly speaking, it is something like a decade since the professional woman worker first began to put into practice to any appreciable extent the idea of having her own roof-tree. The close of her preliminary training often brought with it the necessity for leaving the parental roof for a destination where lay the openings she sought, and in the matter of a new domicile she would probably find herself planted in the bosom of some family, either as a lodger or paying guest, an arrangement hailed with satisfaction by her friends because of the "protection" it was said to afford her.

But lodgings had limitations; the best of niches in someone else's "Eden" was but a cramped sort of corner, and, when all was said, a home was the expression of its owner's individuality, and did not pretend to provide for its temporary inmate's special needs, out of which emerged eventually her determination to house herself. The search for suitable accommodation very quickly brought home to her the realisation of how seriously she was handicapped financially as compared with her male colleague, bent on a similar errand. From the very beginning of his career, he had annually received a substantial bonus on account of his sex, and was therefore able to house himself far more adequately and conveniently than the lesser paid woman. It was perhaps this handicap that led to so many women taking the top rooms of a house, because of their cheapness, and if it was a far cry from the roof to the front door the residents below provided the "protection" then deemed so necessary for the female occupier, and lessened somewhat the dismay of her friends at her latest venture.

Privacy, independence, congenial surroundings, were included in the new arrangements, but domestic obligations loomed largely on the horizon, for no one flung economic independence to the winds to become the "angel of her home," and attend to her creature comforts in return for board, lodging, medical attendance and laundry. Applicants for that position required of her, in addition to all these, an adequate salary, which was just what her own underpayment precluded; so it ended in her shouldering the domestic duties herself, with or without casual labour, according to her resources.

The lower standard of life (as compared with that of her male colleague), to which she had perforce to submit, taught her, as nothing else could, the real value of the salary withheld from her on account of her sex, and she began to think it was high time women were paid all that they earned, and not only what someone else thought was sufficient to their needs. She was not even able to exist "Micawber-like" in the hope of something good turning up later on and increasing her comfort, for she noted that the best professional positions were reserved for men, this being the natural climax of Sex Differentiation in Pay.

But something good was brought home to her with the approach of the municipal election, and that was the value of a vote. Along came the canvassers, soliciting her support for their candidates, and often quite unprepared for the questions she put, with a view to probing the views and probable line of action of the would-be councillors. Canvassing took on a new complexion. A few votes would turn the municipal scales; therefore electors' queries either were answered by the written replies of the candidates or, better still, by the candidates in person. Here are some of the questions put by

a woman occupier who happened to be a teacher:—

1. Will you advocate the more frequent opening of the local swimming baths to women? (1 day for women; 6 days for men, was the local rule.)
2. Are you in favour of the proposed provision of some covered-in swimming accommodation for school children? (This was a local need.)
3. What are your views on Sex Differentiation in Salary?
4. Are you prepared to oppose the erection of big Mixed Departments under Headmasters?
5. Should women teachers be dismissed on marriage?
6. Will you support the nomination of women teacher representatives to the local Education Committee, so that Special, Infants' and Girls' schools, which are entirely staffed by women, may be adequately represented?

Personal interviews enabled that woman teacher to put her point of view to those who, if elected, might become later on members of the Education Committee, and so have a share in determining local conditions of education. If written replies were received then they indicated more or less clearly how the future councillors would carry out the educational part of their municipal duties. Question 3 (Sex Differentiation in Salary) in one case produced the following written reply:—"I am fearful that our inherited notions will bar the way for a long time." Fortunately, ever increasing numbers of women workers refuse to enter into such an inheritance. The candidate, who opined in answer to Question 5, that "woman's place was in the home," was asked whether his reply included widows, women with underpaid or incapacitated husbands, and women whose parents or friends were unable or unwilling to support them. It is not unknown for a municipal candidate to have modified some of his views in the light of the experience and opinions of his women electors, and it is no longer possible for men teachers, in the professional meetings, to cast doubt on the value of the franchise, and to ask with impunity as to what use the vote will be to their women colleagues, many of whom have already sensed the worth of even a municipal vote, if only as a link in the chain of pupil, teacher and local Education Authority.

The link with the Board of Education has yet to be forged.

Now, professional women workers do not live in the jungle, and are not in fear of members of their own sex; other folk are not able to keep them immune from storms and plagues and such-like human ills, and they themselves consider it the duty of the community to ensure that neither its male or female members suffer molestation. Therefore, they throw overboard cheerfully the "inherited notion" of the kind of protection they need and replace it with the determination to win for themselves, at all costs, the much-needed protection that the Parliamentary franchise would afford their professional life.

But the Parliamentary canvasser still passes their doors. No need to ascertain their views, since his candidate, if elected, will not be responsible to them, though as a member of Parliament, he will be at least partially responsible for the large classes, unsuitable buildings, underfed children, etc., that cast dark shadows over the school-life of the nation and affect so adversely the professional life of the teacher. Were the 58,000 women members of the National Union of Teachers, the only enfranchised women in these islands, these conditions would not exist.

Of late there is yet another phase of the habitation problem of the professional women. Many of them, rejecting the domestic obligations thrust on them by their underpayment, have migrated to the hostel or club, thus dealing a death-blow to that

much cherished "inherited notion" that club life and freedom from domestic duties are man's prerogatives.

The voluntary taking up of the responsibilities of citizenship by women workers, as householders, has at least added point to their claim to the rights of citizenship, and to decide for themselves their standard of life, and it has certainly proved the right kind of spade-work for uprooting some of the "inherited notions" so inimical to woman's progress.

THE WAR, WOMEN AND UNEMPLOYMENT.*

By S. A. MUSTARD.

One of the Social Problems to which the present war is causing special attention to be drawn is the unemployment of women. We are slowly realising that "unemployment in industry affects women as well as men"—though Government officials, Ministers of the Crown, and newspaper writers continue to talk as though *men only* counted in industry. Mr. Samuel (Board of Trade), speaking on March 22, stated that the returns for pauperism and unemployment were never so low as now. Yet Miss Susan Lawrence (London County Council) said only two days previously that there were in England and Wales nearly 60,000 women out of work.

The Board of Trade Index Number and the returns of unemployment coming under Part II of the Insurance Act, although dealing with 3,000,000 workers, includes very few women. Hardly any returns are published about women's work, and very little publicity is given to those that are, so that when any remedies are discussed for unemployment they usually deal only with relief work for men, such as road-making, digging, etc.

During last September and October, owing to men being drawn into Government pay or given work by municipalities, there were at least *three times as many women* out of work as men. If as large a percentage of men had been unemployed much more energetic steps would have been taken to relieve the situation.

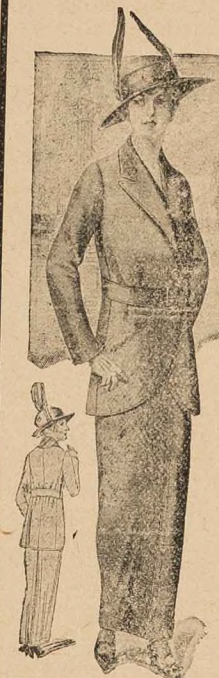
Strange to say, although statutory powers had been given to the Central Unemployed Body for London in 1905 to deal with this question, and this body was working when the war broke out, it was to a new and voluntary committee, namely, the Queen's Work for Women Fund, that the Government turned, when compelled to face the question of relief work. The Government evidently had no great faith in their own machinery. As a matter of fact, the relief offered by the Central Unemployed Committee was so hedged round by restrictions that very few women could qualify for help from it. However, when the war broke out, even that body roused itself, shed some of its red-tape, and offered work to any women in distress. Until the war there were only three workrooms supplying 125 places for women for the whole of London, but eight more rooms were opened, providing 900 places inclusive.

Never before have we had such numbers of women wage-earners, for to-day in England and Wales there are no less than 7,000,000, exclusive of the great army of unpaid domestic workers. In fact, the great majority of British women are wage-earners during some part of their lives. Mr. Sidney Webb gives a statistical estimate of wages earned by manual workers in 1912, in which men's wages average 25s. 9d. per week, whilst women's are 10s. 10½d. If women on wages such as these be-

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come thrown out of work they are soon face to face with starvation.

There are three ways of relieving unemployment amongst women, namely, the giving of doles, the production of garments, and the training and educating for more skilled work than they have hitherto done. The first is pernicious, the second is training more women to swell a trade already paying sweated wages, the last is the only sound way of dealing with the problem, and a maintenance grant must be paid to the women whilst they are being taught. This has already been adopted by the Government for men, the War Office paying recruits and giving maintenance during their training.

"Prevention is better than cure" for unemployment as well as other evils, and is now what is advised by political economists, and has been definitely adopted by the State. When labour returns show a falling off in work, the Government and Town Councils should increase their output of work orders as much as possible.

In August last we had the Government departments brought directly in touch with the Cabinet, who racked their brains to discover what work could be put in hand, and instructions were given to Local Authorities to give out work. "The men engaged should be paid wages in the ordinary way." (Circular P.R.D. 7, August 20, 1914.)

Note the words *the men!*

Unemployment among 7,000,000 wage-earning women and girls needs to be prevented as much as unemployment among 13,000,000 men and boys, but unfortunately those in charge of Government departments, and those who run Town Councils, are almost exclusively men, and very few unemployed wage-earning women have even a municipal vote, and no woman has a Parliamentary vote.

THE VOTE.

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"PORTRAIT OF A MOTHER AND CHILD,"

In France, soon after the outbreak of the war, the Chamber of Deputies voluntarily reduced the salaries of its members all round by 20 per cent. At St. Stephens it is possible that something similar, or even more self-denying, has been done, and that the well-known modesty of our politicians has firmly insisted upon its suppression as an item of news by the Press Bureau. If not, they should for their own sakes ask the censor to prohibit such descriptions of their doings in Parliament as the following:—

"During the hon. member's speech, only one other member of the House apart from the Deputy Speaker was present—Mr. Acland, Secretary to the Treasury. Mr. W. Crooks (Woolwich, Lab.) and a few other members were outside the door leading to the members' lobby, and occasionally interrupted the speech by shouts of "Time, gentlemen, please," and "Speak up." Sir J. D. Rees paid no heed to their shouts and laughter, and proceeded to the end as unperturbed as if he were addressing a crowded House. When he had finished speaking, another member hurried in, called the Deputy Speaker's attention to the absence of a quorum, and hurried out again. A "count" was called, and as, after the prescribed two minutes, the attendance had been reduced by the departure of Sir J. D. Rees himself to one, the House stood adjourned, at a quarter past nine o'clock."—(*Times*, March 10, 1915.)

Let us piously hope it was not "the lure of the drink" (which, by the way, was the subject then receiving the benefits of Sir J. D. Rees' eloquence), or any other slight cause that enticed the members from their duties. The description certainly seems reminiscent of the bar parlour rather than the Bar of the House.

The salaries paid to these hard-working and trusty public servants amount to an annual quarter of a million. Let us couple with that the fact that 114,000 babies die every year, mainly among people too poor to feed them properly. £250,000 spent on 114,000 poor babies would provide each with nearly a shillingworth of milk extra every week. The nation that cannot afford to feed its own babies properly is well set to work providing comfortable salaries for men who earn them by setting such examples to Clydeside strikes as those described above, and by performing such eminent public services as postponing by many months the operation of a Pure Milk Bill. However, if we cannot afford to keep alive our real babies, let us console ourselves. We can buy them—on canvas. The very day after the *Times* so feelingly described the strenuous devotion to duty of our paid legislators it comforted our artistic souls by informing us that the National Gallery has acquired a portrait of a

mother and child by Van Dyck for a mere £10,000. The lady will not ask for a vote, equal payment or any troublesome thing of that kind. The child will not die as a vulgar protest against insufficient feeding, light and fresh air. So all is well. It is an eminently suitable time to buy works of old masters at the usual inflated prices, whilst living artists can hardly earn their bread, and pictures of all sorts are safest in basements. One wonders if we could do without some of our Old Masters of another kind, and profitably replace them by some New Mistresses.

The man in the street who used to give Suffragists the frequent advice to "Mind the Baby!" was, after all, quite right—except that he did not go far enough. Thinking women do indeed now need to mind the baby—in the cradle; in the home; in the Lock Hospital; in the school; and beneath the farmers' tender mercies ("under our own thumbs") as child labourers on the land. These are days when human lives are getting steadily cheaper and cheaper.

If anything can arrest this hideous process it will be an awakened public opinion stung at last into action. Who is to arouse it? Who better than the women teachers of the country?

Their demands should be pressed upon Parliament unceasingly. We cannot afford to pour out millions of treasure and hundreds of thousands of lives to have a country replenished by a rising generation of stunted, defective children. After all, could Germany herself wish us any worse than that? It would be an ill-placed, misapprehended patriotism which would not demand an adequate standard of education and maintenance for children, here and now. The father does not go to the trenches that his children may be turned younger into the workshop, field and factory—or that his growing daughter may cut him out of industry by her cheapness as labour. Women teachers—using the word teacher in its widest sense, as applying to all who form and lead opinion—can render Great Britain no nobler War Service than to do everything in their power towards the right education of children. Nor will they interpret the term "education" in that narrow sense which used to limit its meaning to the giving of mere information. Just as the nation at large wars against Prussianism, so should they war against whatever is harmful to the child. And what a list of evil influences that is!

It begins with overworked, underfed, ill-instructed, badly housed mothers. A great French educationist was once asked at what age he would begin the education of a child. "Twenty-five years before its birth," he replied. To help the child it is necessary to help the mother first. Hence every change in housing, health visiting, sanitation and factory legislation bearing upon women is the due concern of all who care for children. So also is every evil influence which assails the children in slum, street and workshop. The enormous increase in recent years of cases of assault upon children and adolescent girls demands the most serious attention of women teachers. Of what avail are their efforts in school if the patient work of years is to be corroded by the perverted instincts of a few degenerates? It has recently been found necessary to form a strong committee to deal with this subject—a subject, be it remarked, which has engaged the earnest attention of the Women's Freedom League for years. Teachers and educationists interested in the matter who do not belong to our ranks are invited to join this society and strengthen our hands in what must prove a terribly uphill fight.

Whether Prussianism be crushed or not, it is a certain thing that we shall not rear a proud Imperial race to carry on the traditions of freedom in this country if the intelligence of its children is dwarfed by underfeeding in youth and their physique impaired by bad material conditions. Therefore, war on the slum, war on the obsolete and unhealthy old schools and bad playgrounds, war on the slackness of local authorities in applying the Feeding of Necessitous School Children Act, and war on child labour, whether half-time or otherwise! All these are women teachers' obvious duties. There is one perhaps not quite so obvious, but just as necessary; it is that women teachers have a duty to acquire the weapons necessary for so noble a fight. "What king, as he goeth to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and take counsel whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?" The sword wherewith to strike the evils that hurt the child is the vote. The armour necessary for the warrior is the possession of economic justice in her Union and profession. The woman teacher who demands that she shall not be underpaid and disfranchised because of her sex is no more mercenary or selfish than the knight who donned armour and sword before he attacked the Monster of Evil.

If the women who care deeply for children, who are anxious to "mind the baby," had economic and political power, it is possible that there might be a portrait the less just now of a "Lady and Child." But there might be more living pictures of happy mothers and of children fed, protected and educated as they ought to be, and of politicians who, instead of roaming the world as absentees from all but the salary list or the smoking-rooms of the House of Commons, might find a little useful work to do in framing just laws for women and children.

HELENA NORMANTON.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM: FORESHADOWINGS IN FICTION.

By L. A. M. PRIESTLEY (Mrs. Geo. McCracken).
Author of "Love Stories of Eminent Women," etc.

X.
("Henry Esmond," by W. M. THACKERAY.)

How much easier life would be, especially the domestic part of it, if women were really the inferior creatures men assume them to be! The gall and wormwood of many a home arises from the perception that, to use a paradox, the weaker partner is in truth the stronger. There may be, and usually is, a tacit silence upon the matter, but the husband, in whose blood inevitably runs the age-long tradition of masculine supremacy, chafes under the consciousness of his wife's superiority; while the wife knows the constant fret of an inward rebellion against an authority she either despises or distrusts. Such a disturbing element in marital relations was recognised by Thackeray, and though he lived before our modern Suffrage days, this great master of English prose becomes at times a great protagonist in the cause of justice where women are concerned. He traces with rare discernment the discord that grew gradually between the Castlewoods owing to Rachel's native pre-eminence, both of mind and spirit, over her husband. Some passages discovering this rift in the lute of their domestic bliss breathe a fine scorn of man's arrogant pretensions and women's supposed inferiority, and form a contribution of much interest and value to our sheaf of "Foresadowings in Fiction."

Let us hear our author discourse of the evanescence of love; the position of women; the tyranny

of the male:—

"So oaths mutually sworn, and invocations to heaven, and priestly ceremonies, and fond belief and love so fond and faithful that it never doubted but that it should live for ever, are all of no avail towards making love eternal. It dies in spite of the banns and the priest, and I have often thought there should be a visitation of the sick for it, and a funeral service and an extreme unction and an *abi in pace*. . . . Strephon and Chloe languish apart; join in a rapture; and presently you hear that Chloe is crying and Strephon has broken his crook across her back. Can you mend it so as to show no marks of rupture? Not all the priests of Hymen, not all the incantations to the gods, can make it whole!

So-called love, we affirm, can never be eternal so long as Strephon is allowed the whip hand by custom or by law. Sweet love is slain by masculine mastery. Further, our author seeks to explain other and less obvious causes for love's abdication: "Much of the quarrels and hatred which arise between married people come, in my mind, from the husband's rage and revolt at discovering that his slave and bedfellow, who is to minister to all his wishes and is church-worship to honour and obey him, is his superior, and that *he*, and not she, ought to be the subordinate of the twain. And in these controversies, I think, lay the cause of my lord's anger against his lady; when he left her she began to think for herself, and her thoughts were not in his favour and if it be painful to a woman to find herself mated for life to a boor and ordered to love and honour a dullard, it is worse still for the man himself perhaps whenever in his dim comprehension the idea dawns that his slave and drudge yonder is in truth his superior; that the woman who does his bidding and submits to his humour should be his lord; that she can think a thousand things beyond the power of his muddled brain; and that in yonder head on the pillow opposite to him lie a thousand feelings, mysteries of thought, latent scorns and rebellions whereof he only dimly perceives the existence as they look furtively out from her eyes—treasures of love doomed to perish without a hand to gather them—sweet fancies and images of beauty that would grow and unfold themselves in flower; bright wit that would shine like diamonds could it be brought into the sun; and the tyrant in possession crushes the outbreak of all these, drives them back like slaves into the dungeon and darkness, and chafes without that his prisoner is rebellious and his sworn subject undutiful and refractory."

A little later and a deeper note is struck. The essence of its vibrant pain has nerved many a Suffrage blow for freedom:—

"For his rule over his family and for his conduct to wife and children—subjects over whom his power is monarchical—anyone who watches the world must think with trembling sometimes of the account which many a man will have to render. For in our society there's no law to control the King of the Fireside. He is master of property, happiness, life almost. He is free to punish, to make happy or unhappy—to ruin or to torture. He may kill a wife gradually, and be no more questioned than the Grand Seigneur who drowns a slave at midnight. He may make slaves and hypocrites of his children, or friends and freemen; or drive them into revolt and enmity against the natural law of love. I have heard politicians and coffee-house wisecracks talking over the newspaper and railing at the tyranny of the French King and Emperor, and wondered how these (who are monarchs, too, in their way) govern their own dominions at home where each man rules absolute. When the annals of each little reign are shown to the Supreme Master, under whom we hold sovereignty, histories will be laid bare of household tyrants as cruel, as Murath, as savage as Nero, and as reckless and dissolute as Charles."

There is something so wistful, yet scornful, so quaint a mingling of the "old" and the "new" woman, in the following scrap of talk between Lady Castlewood and Esmond that I quote it in conclusion:—

"'Twas after Jason left her, no doubt," Lady Castlewood once said, with one of her smiles, to young Esmond, "that Medea became a learned woman and a great enchantress."

"And she could conjure the stars out of heaven," the young tutor added, "but she could not bring Jason back again."

"What do you mean?" asked my lady, very angry. "Indeed I mean nothing," said the other, "save what I've read in books."

"The men who wrote your books," said my lady, "your Horaces, and Ovids and Virgils, as far as I know of them, all thought ill of us as all the heroes they wrote about used us basely. We were bred to be slaves always; and even of our own times, as you are still the only law-givers, I think our sermons seem to say that the best woman is she who bears her master's chains most gracefully." "Italics are mine."

TRAINING.

In our last issue we dealt with the trained women who are being asked by Government to offer War Service to their country. Appeal is being made also to the untrained—young girls who have had no special training in industry, and women trained in businesses which would not fall under this special category. In some cases, as in the manufacture of war munitions, the urgent need will cease when peace is proclaimed; and many of us hope that the country will never again be faced by the same dire necessity. In other cases—clerk work or agriculture or the ordinary equipment of the troops—the instruction given will be of permanent value.

The peculiar strain at present seems to be in the making of war munitions. To those who feel that war is the greatest curse the world can know, it is piteous that women should be engaged in making instruments of destruction. At the same time, we are ready to concede that if this war, which, some of us hope, will end war, in Europe at least, is to be speedily and satisfactorily concluded, work must not be stinted, and women, to help their country, are ready to make this sacrifice. We claim, however, that to those who throw themselves loyally into this distasteful form of service special consideration shall be given. The Board of Trade should now be devising schemes to meet what will certainly be a serious problem in the future—viz. how to place the women who are training for special branches of war service when the war is over.

Generally, in the case of untrained women, we demand from Government a guarantee that, during the weeks and months of training such maintenance shall be given as will enable them to carry on their work and to preserve their health and strength. It would not be fair that this cost should be borne by poor relatives.

We hope that, abandoning the ordinary haphazard policy when it is a question of the people's lives, the Government will give careful attention to these questions. We admit they bristle with difficulties. But, to the true-hearted and the brave, difficulties exist to be met. Possibly there may grow out of the present tangle a complete and more efficient organisation of industry—a wiser use of the splendid human material our nation possesses. There should be life training for all. It is a pitiful thing that children fourteen years of age, whose parents can barely support themselves and the younger members of their families, should be thrust out into the labour market to buy their training, if ever they get it, at the bitter cost of such overwork and anxiety as will endanger and often ruin their health.

Training: during the training, maintenance; and, after it, a certain time for special national service. Such a system, carried out democratically without respect of persons, and with efficiency, would in one generation change the character and the physique of our people.

This is for the future; meantime we ask that the untrained women who answer the Board of Trade's appeal may receive fair and wise treatment.

C. DESPARD.

CHEF versus COOK.

A great deal of publicity is given to-day to woman—her work, capacity and her place in the world. A few years ago we were told her place was the home, and there she should stay. True, a few million women had escaped into the world, there to bear their part in the struggle of life;

but these women were unsexed freaks and oddities unless they pandered to the pleasures of comforts of man—actresses, waitresses and domestic servants, including the much discussed cook.

To-day, man, with the true illogicality he so often displays, sings another tune. Woman's place, Lord Charles Beresford tells us, is in the world, and he is convinced that women are infinitely happier at work than living at home in idleness and ease. He paid a great tribute to the organising power and capacity of women. Other critics profess to be astounded at the want of capacity shown by women. "Where are the women doctors?" they ask. "We threw open the doors of the Universities to women. Why are there not now as many women doctors as the country requires?" They forget women forced the doors open, and that up till now men have put every obstacle in the way of women receiving a well-paid appointment on any public Board.

Just now another class of workers is being maligned. Women, we hear, cannot cook. There are no great chefs. True, because women have never been given the opportunity of training in this art. Every girl is by nature supposed to be a nurse, a cook, a housemaid, a sewing maid, and a general exponent of the domestic sciences. Nature may have meant her to be an engineer, a divine, or a lawyer, but convention has decreed that she shall be a domestic drudge. When the average girl leaves school, no one considers what trade is most suited to her; many at which she might shine are barred to her; she is, instead, turned loose in the domestic world where, by instinct, she is supposed to acquire the art of cooking, cleaning, and managing a house. A boy, on the other hand, who decides to become a chef—he is rarely known by as common a name as cook—is carefully taught and trained; money is spent upon his career, with the result that, having reached manhood's estate, he is able to earn a good salary. Without any specialised training, a woman who, in middle life, earns from £40 to £50 a year with board and lodging, and has under her two women, is considered to be most fortunate. But a man, with no more ability and no more delicate hand for creating dainties, is earning a salary running into hundreds, and has under him both men and women to execute his slightest behest.

If women were given the same training as men, if their work were considered an art, as is the chef's, they would prove quite as capable of turning out a repast that would tickle the palate of the most fastidious gourmand. The young girl in service spends her time cleaning pots and washing vegetables, and picks up what knowledge of cooking she can. The boy, on the other hand, is carefully taught, and keeps his hands clean in order to create delicacies. Give the girl the same chance as a boy, call her a chef, not a cook, pay her at the rate of a chef, and then judge the result. E.G.M.

DEPUTATION TO THE PRIME MINISTER.

The Prime Minister has replied as follows to our Secretary's letter, which appeared in THE VOTE last week:—

10, Downing-st., Whitehall, S.W.
24th March, 1915.

Miss F. A. Underwood.

DEAR MADAM,—The Prime Minister desires me to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 20, and to say that he cannot consider the question of introducing legislation on the contentious subject of Woman Suffrage during the course of the war.

In these circumstances, he thinks that no useful purpose would be served by his receiving the suggested deputation.—Yours faithfully,
DAVID DAVIES.

"THE DESPARD ARMS."—HOUSE-WARMING AND OPENING.

"May we come in? Are you open to-night?"
"Yes, certainly. You are most welcome!"
"How bright and cheerful it is! What good coffee! We shall come again and bring our friends!"

They were just the people for whom the "Despard Arms" has been started. They live in one of the neighbouring streets, and there was not always in their homes, they told us, the warmth and brightness that appealed to them at the "Despard Arms," nor the hot coffee and other non-alcoholic drinks, or the meals that are to be. We took their surprise and appreciation as a good augury.

"Will the 'Despard Arms' be fulfilling its functions on the opening night, and can we obtain a light supper?" asked our good friend, Mr. Henry Holiday, the artist, whose home has so often been open to the Women's Freedom League for "Birthday" and other parties. "If so, I should like to come and bring some friends."

"Certainly,"
And Mr. Holiday came, others, too; they partook of the supper provided, and pronounced it "Very good!" Mrs. Nevinson, in her speech at the Opening, declared that she had never tasted such soup, and added: "I must have the recipe!" We took their appreciation as a good augury!

"It is not often that one's dreams are fulfilled," said Mrs. Despard, in her speech declaring the "Despard Arms" open to the public, "but to-night the North London Branches of the Women's Freedom League have made it possible for me to see the fulfilment of a long cherished dream—a Public House which shall be a House for the Public, without stigma or degradation. We begin in a small way, but we hope that in many parts of London and the whole country such public-houses will be opened!" And Mr. Harrison Hill, who lent his most welcome and cheering aid at both House-warming and Opening, took up the words, wrote an impromptu poem, sang it, made us all join in the chorus, and raised enthusiasm to concert pitch. Here it is—it will be the "House song" from now onwards! Our warmest thanks to our good friend, who never fails to entertain and cheer—as an associate of the Women's Freedom League.

THE SONG OF "THE DESPARD ARMS."

AIR:—"The British Grenadiers."

[Impromptu Song at the Opening by Mrs. Despard of "The Despard Arms."]

Oh! Mrs. Despard's here to-day,
In spite of journeys long;
To greet us at the "Despard Arms,"
Where we are going strong.
Her brother is a hero true,
The brave Field-Marshal French;
And we have hero's work to do
In our own particular trench.

Chorus.

So here's to Mrs. Despard!
And to brave Field-Marshal French!
And a welcome to "The Despard Arms"—
Our own particular trench!

Now, Mrs. Despard's name, you know,
Is not a splendid myth;
It's a name to go to friend or foe,
A name to conjure with.
And when the battle's to begin,
She's always in the van;
And perfect freedom she will win
For woman and for man.
Chorus.—So here's to Mrs. Despard, etc.

If, in those trenches far away,
There are cheery hearts and true;
We have our war to wage to-day,
And we'll be cheery, too.
For men and women toil all day,
In time of war's alarms;
And they deserve to be bright and gay
In their own "Despard Arms."
Chorus.—So here's to Mrs. Despard, etc.
How few of us can hope to see
The things that we have willed;
How few of us can hope to see
Our dearest dreams fulfilled.
But here to-night we make a start
To realise the gleam
That shines from out the very heart
Of Mrs. Despard's dream.

Chorus.—So here's to Mrs. Despard, etc.
So, Mrs. Mrs. Despard, here we give
New loyalty to you;
Through all the days that you may live,
May all your dreams come true.
Dear Lady, if your dreams come true,
Their glories and their charms
Shall make the world a happier place,
Just like "The Despard Arms."
Chorus.—So here's to Mrs. Despard, etc.

HARRISON HILL.

The special interest at the House-Warming on Thursday and the Opening on Saturday last was to see the place and its possibilities. The large room on the ground-floor will be at our disposal when not required by the Morris dancers of the Esperance Club—an excellent institution which has been housed at 50, Cumberland Market for fourteen years, and of which Miss Mary Neal is founder and hon. secretary. It is with Miss Neal that arrangements have been made for our use of the rooms, and her good wishes to our enterprise include many interesting developments. On the next floor there are two good rooms with folding doors. Here refreshments will be served, and newspapers, games, etc., provided. The house is in excellent condition, clean, well-lighted and comfortably furnished. Various important additions are necessary for the new work which will be carried on, and some of these have already been met by our friends, but the list is by no means exhausted. The verdict of the many friends who came to see the "Despard Arms" was most favourable, and if good wishes ensure success, Mrs. Despard's dream will be more than realised.

Among those who came to give us a good send-off on Saturday last was His Worship the Mayor of St. Marylebone, who responded most heartily to our invitation as soon as it reached him, and expressed keen interest in the scheme as he saw it materialised. His presence and his encouraging words were much appreciated, and further visits will be warmly welcomed whenever it may be in his power to pay them. The Mayor of St. Pancras, in whose borough the house is, was unable to be present through absence from town. Others who were similarly prevented included General Sir Alfred Turner and Mr. W. H. Dickinson, M.P.

Mrs. Despard received a rousing welcome on both evenings; her description of her dream and its realisation was heard with great interest. She laid stress on the fact that the "Despard Arms" would be open to men and women, and she hoped that young men and their sweethearts would find it an attractive and happy place to spend an evening. It would be for recreation as well as refreshment, and she hoped that it might soon be possible for those who frequented it to take their share in organising the enjoyments. Mrs. Nevinson warmly supported the scheme, and emphasised the need for the provision all over the country of public-houses where good food, at reasonable cost, comfortable accommodation, and enjoyable recreation can

be obtained. Britain is far behind other countries in this respect, and she hoped that the "Despard Arms" would show what could be done. Too much could not be done to make life happier for the wives of the brave men fighting for us on sea or on shore, she added, and she thought that they would value the brightness and the comfort of the "Despard Arms" and be glad to bring their men with them whenever possible. Dr. V. H. Rutherford, who lives close by in Regent's Park, came to show his interest in the scheme, but being called out to a patient was unable to take part in the Opening ceremony.

Convalescent soldiers and some nurses from the Temperance Hospital, not far away, were received with enthusiasm, and showed their keen appreciation of Mr. Harrison Hill's amusing stories, songs, and especially some verses written for and sung to wounded soldiers in hospital.

Miss Julie Huntsman again responded most willingly to our request for recitations, and delighted the audience by her moving story, "Alsace-Lorraine," and a Scotch poem, "Bairnies, cuddle doon!" Best of all, she has promised to come and help whenever possible! Our gratitude is given in abundant measure.

We have many friends to thank for their practical support; our hearty thanks are given willingly and with a keen appreciation of favours to come. Among them are the Morris dancers of the Esperance Club, who gave so excellent a show on Mar. 29, and thus brought many people to the "Despard Arms." Messrs. T. W. Thompson and Co. Ltd., of Tottenham Court-road, gave us a good supply of cups, saucers, plates, dishes, bowls and cooking utensils, for which we are most grateful. Many responses were made to Mrs. Huntsman's appeal at the House-Warming for other articles required and payment of needful equipment. Various experts undertook to cook the supper-dish to be provided each evening, and others offered entertainments. To the Misses Young, who provided the sign "The Despard Arms," our heartiest thanks are given; also to Miss Booth Scott and Miss E. D. Bertram, of Lamorna, near Penzance, who sent beautiful flowers to brighten the rooms; to Mrs. Bushell, the housekeeper for practical help in many ways; and to our willing workers of the North London Branches, and our friends who helped us with money; their devoted service enabled the "Despard Arms" to become a reality.

A further list of "wants" includes £3 for providing a sink and water supply; £1 10s. for coal; £1 for additional tables. Our rent stands at £1 a week; cleaning, lighting, gas for cooking, etc., £1. Guarantees for one or more week's expenses will be an excellent means of help.

We have great pleasure in acknowledging, with sincere thanks, the following gifts:—

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Already acknowledged ...	18 14 4	Sale of refreshments at House-Warming and Opening ...	1 17 0
Henry Holiday, Esq. ...	1 1 0	Collections (ditto) ...	5 0 0
W. Snow, Esq. ...	1 0 0		
Mrs. Snow ...	1 0 0		
Mrs. Herschel ...	1 0 0		
			£29 12 4

IN SYMPATHY.

In addition to personal letters from Mrs. Despard and other friends, the Women's Freedom League desires to express its deep sympathy with Mr. and Mrs. J. Y. Kennedy in the loss of their eldest son, killed in action at Neuve Chapelle, and their anxiety as to their youngest son, who has been dangerously wounded, and another son in the fighting line.

OUR TREASURY.
NATIONAL FUND.

Amount previously acknowledged: October, 1907, to December, 1914, £25,135 5s. 7d

Amount previously acknowledged		£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Special Emergency War Fund.—		341	9 2
"A Friend" ...		12	6
Mrs. Meeson Coates ...		10	6
Miss Fuller ...		5	0
Miss B. Kent ...		4	0
Mrs. Hinde ...		2	6
Dr. B. P. Lindup ...		2	0
Mrs. Angold ...		1	6
Mrs. Glover ...		1	0
Highbury Branch ...		8	0
Kensington Branch ...		17	0

341 9 2

Café Chantant.—

"An Edinburgh Member" ...	11	0
Mrs. Corner ...	2	6
Per Mrs. Fisher (for Refreshments):		
Mrs. Sargant Florence ...	10	0
Dr. Knight ...	10	0
Mrs. Nicolaidi ...	10	0
Mrs. Sharman ...	10	0
Hon. Mrs. Forbes ...	5	0
Mrs. Fox Bourne ...	5	0
Mrs. Holmes ...	5	0
Mrs. Mockford ...	4	0
Mrs. Catmur ...	2	6
Mrs. Clark ...	2	6
Mrs. Higgins ...	2	6
Mrs. Cobden Sanderson ...	2	6
Mrs. Sutcliffe ...	2	6
Mrs. Terry ...	2	6
Mrs. Thomson ...	2	6
Mrs. Tritton ...	2	6
Mrs. Wilkinson and Miss Lole ...	2	6
Miss Williams ...	2	6
Miss C. S. Hare ...	2	0
Misses Hayward ...	2	0
Miss Barrow ...	1	0
Miss Todd ...	1	0
Croydon Branch ...	10	0
Hornsey Branch ...	1	0
Goods sold ...	4	6 2
Rent of Stalls:		
Catholic Women's Suffrage Socy.	7	6
Church League, Woman Suffrage	7	6
E. London Fed. the Suffragettes.	7	6
Free Church League for Woman Suffrage	7	6
Minerva Publishing Company	7	6
Women Writers' Suffrage League	7	6

13 4 8

Trafalgar Square Demonstration.—

E. London Fed. of the Suffragettes	3	4	10
"M.A.S." ...	2	14	0

Mrs. E. M. N. Clark ...	3	3	0
Mrs. Grove ...	10	6	
Madame Putz ...	2	6	
Miss Brrouneau ...	1	0	
Miss Constance Harvey ...	1	0	
Profit on THE VOTE, per Miss Barrs	9	6	
Tickets ...	9	13	6
Collections ...	3	1	11
Office Sales ...			5
Branches.—			
Cardiff ...	1	6	0
Capitation Fees.—			
Letchworth ...	9	0	
Regent's Park ...	2	6	

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League, and crossed "London and South-Western Bank, Limited."
To Branch Treasurers.—In future Branch and District funds will be added to the National Fund, and for this purpose a list should be sent monthly to the Hon. Treas.

MR. URWICK'S SONNETS.

There must have been some unrecognised influence of the current controversy as to whether horse racing should take place during the war when our readers were informed last week that *The Bookmaker* had recognised the merits of Mr. Edward Urwick's latest book of sonnets, "To Poster Artists and others" (Minerva Publishing Co. 1s.) It was the *Bookman*, whose pronouncements on literary subjects—not on horses—have so wide an influence, which gave so hearty a reception to Mr. Urwick's work, and by so doing will make the book known to readers in many countries of the world. We know that Mr. Urwick's Suffrage sonnets are also warmly appreciated at home and in the British Dominions Overseas.

A REMARKABLE SCOTTISH WOMAN.

In the death of Miss Mary Slessor at Old Calabar, West Africa, Scotland lately lost one of her ablest women and the Empire a successful woman consul. As the *Glasgow Herald* put it: "She was more than a great missionary; she was a great pro-consul of the best type, and her death at this time, with the fighting going on in the Cameroon territory, is a heavy and serious loss." Even by the enemy she was once described as the one person in that region whom Germany feared, and who, owing to her knowledge of the native customs and dialects, could never be cheated.

She was born in Aberdeenshire, but when quite a young girl went with her parents to live in Dundee, where she was employed for a time as a loom worker. She spent most of her spare time in conducting a mission amongst the young people in the roughest district of the town, and many stories are still told of her extraordinary influence over the wildest lads. In 1876 she went out to Old Calabar as a missionary, and from the earliest stage her career was marked by courageous and daring deeds.

Soon after her arrival she studied and mastered the Efih language, and so valuable were her services to the authorities that more than once they asked her to become a Government official. In 1890 Sir Claude Macdonald, then Governor of Southern Nigeria, appointed her British Consul for the Okoyong Province—till then an unheard of position for a woman to occupy. She accepted the position as she considered it would help her missionary influence. She was popularly known by the name of "Ma's Law," and the people obeyed her implicitly, recognising the wisdom of her decisions. The civilising she effected of some of the fiercest and most savage tribes is part of the history of West Africa. Her final crusading effort was at Itio, which was formerly the greatest slave market of the region.

Anxious to provide for the welfare of the children and get suitable training for the women, including manual instruction, she did excellent pioneer work, and was instrumental in founding the Hope-Waddell Institute twenty years ago. It has been much valued by the people, and Miss Slessor always encouraged its trade and other activities. She frequently received thanks from State officials for the great services she rendered to her adopted land. In August, 1913, she was enrolled an honorary associate of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem in England, of which the King is the sovereign head and patron. This is the only form of official honour as yet conferred on the women of Great Britain.

Miss Slessor demonstrated in her life and work that she could rule wisely and well, that she could administer justice impartially, and that she could organise efficiently. She taught civilisation and Christianity, and trained the savage into a peaceable Christian. Many times she faced an angry mob alone, but in every encounter she proved the victor. She was a remarkable woman, and her death will be sincerely mourned by her many friends. **E. G. M.**

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB.
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Country Members (England and Wales) per annum **One Guinea**. (No Entrance Fee.)
Country Members (Ireland and Scotland) per annum **10s. 6d.** (No Entrance Fee.)
Foreign Members (Resident abroad), per ann. **10s. 6d.** (No Entrance Fee)
Meeting: Wednesday, April 14th, 3.30–6 p.m. Proposed Women's Training Colony, Miss HELEN WILSON, M.D., Club Tea.
Valuable Lending and Reference Library for Members. English and Foreign Books dealing with every aspect of the Women's Movement. Non-members enrolled as Associates by paying 5/6 per ann. **Luncheons, 1/- and 1/6. Dinners, 1/- and 1/6.**
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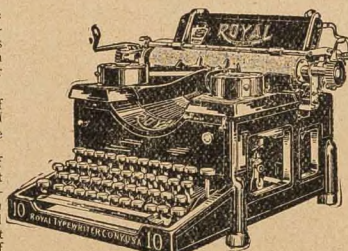
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£500 WANTED FOR THE VOTE.

We rely on each member to make a special effort to sell or distribute one dozen or more copies of the Easter number of *THE VOTE*, and to call attention to its special articles which show, from the woman teacher's point of view, the urgent need for Woman Suffrage. The organ of our League is the flagstaff which keeps the Woman Suffrage flag flying, and we remind our readers that the £500, so urgently needed, have not yet been subscribed to enable *THE VOTE* to continue its service to our Cause. Subscriptions and donations may be sent to Mrs. Despard, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C., and will be acknowledged in *THE VOTE*.

Our sincere thanks to the following friends:—

Amount already acknowledged	£234 10 0
Miss Jamie Allan (monthly)	1 0 0
Mrs. Roberts	5 0
Miss Alison Burley (monthly)	1 0
Mrs. Walter Carey	1 0 0
	£236 16 0

OUR "WEDNESDAY'S" AT THE SUFFRAGE CLUB.

A good audience gathered to welcome the Rev. C. Baumgarten, on March 24, when he paid the visit that had been postponed through illness some weeks ago. His thoughtful and practical address emphasised the unity and co-operation of the various members of the body; the nation, too, is one, and the inter-dependence of its members is evident. Yet, in legislation, this fact is overlooked. To-day, however, the nation is unified as never before, and the great guiding principle should be national co-operation, not private competition. Unity must be shown without sex distinctions; men and women must give of their best. He looked forward to the speedy realisation of the hopes of Woman Suffragists, and that the power of the vote in the hands of women should be used to bring the various members of the body politic into true relation with each other. Mrs. Mustard gave an interesting speech on women and unemployment on the lines followed in her article which appears on page 555.

THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, St. James Sq., S.W. FOR MEN AND WOMEN.

During the War there will be no Entrance Fee, and Subscription reduced to One Guinea per annum. Bedrooms and Board (for Lady Members only) on exceptionally economical terms.

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NEW DEPARTURE.

The Tariff at this Club instead of rising with the War, is being lowered. Note the present 1/- Lunch—Soup, Joint, two Vegetables, Bread, Sweet or Cheese. Test it as the

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(Under the Waldorf Hotel.)

Miss Eunice Murray presided, and both amused and interested her hearers with her comments on the situation to-day, and the complete change of the masculine attitude, which now bids woman understand that her sphere is the nation!

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS.**Mrs. McAllister's At Home.**

Great interest was shown in our work by all who were present at the drawing-room meeting at 1, Mount-st., W., by kind invitation of Mrs. McAllister, on March 26. Mrs. Mustard gave an illuminating speech on the question of the unemployment of women, and spoke specially of the toy workroom at Hackney; some of the toys and dolls were on show. Mrs. Tippett made a most appealing speech for the poor, describing the life and conditions of the people who live in the slums of Nine Elms. She said that at the Restaurant 250 dinners were served daily; that the Children's Play Club was crowded every evening; that a Boy Scouts Troop had been formed; and that the Children's Guest House was to be opened very shortly. Our thanks are warmly given to Mrs. McAllister for taking the chair, and for her kindness and hospitality on the occasion.

Smoking Concert.

Tickets for this concert at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., W., on April 16, can now be obtained at 1, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C., price 1s.

Guest House at Nine Elms.

The Finance Committee acknowledge with sincere thanks the following donations:—

Already acknowledged	£30 0 3
High Commissioner for Union of South Africa	2 2 0
Mrs. Burge	1 0 0
Eric and Bobbie Thwaites	1 0 0
Miss Thwaites	5 0
Clara Nicker	2 6
	£34 9 9

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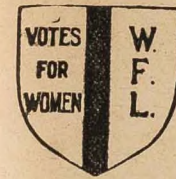
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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS : W.F.L.
LONDON AND SUBURBS.****DARE TO BE FREE**

Friday, April 9.—WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS Executive Committee Meeting, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, 3 p.m.
Monday, April 12.—CLAPHAM BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING, 15, Clapham Mansions, Nightingale-lane, Clapham, 7.30. Mrs. Tanner will address members at 8.15 p.m.
Wednesday, April 14.—PUBLIC MEETING, Suffrage Club, 3.30 p.m.; speaker: the Rev. W. Piggott, "Expert Bureaucracy as Freedom's Foe." MID-LONDON BRANCH MEETING, 1, Robert-st., Adelphi, 7 p.m.
Friday, April 16.—W.S.N.A.C. SMOKING CONCERT, Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., St. James's, 8 p.m.; tickets 1/-.
Sunday, April 18.—PUBLIC MEETING, Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., St. James's, S.W., 3.30 p.m. Speaker: The Rev. Hatty Baker, "The War and After." Admission free. Tea 6d. (obtainable at the Club).
Monday, April 19.—LONDON MEMBERS' MEETING, W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-st., 7 p.m. Light refreshments, 6.30 p.m. W.S.N.A.C. GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, 3 p.m.
Wednesday, April 21.—PUBLIC MEETING, the Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., St. James's, 3.30; Mrs. Despard and others.
Friday, April 23.—PUBLIC MEETING, 32a, The Arcade, High-st., Croydon, 3.30; speaker: Mrs. Gaskell.
Friday, April 30.—DISCUSSION MEETING, The Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., St. James's, 8 p.m. Mr. W. L. George: Subject, "Woman and the Arts." Admission by ticket, 1s. (numbered and reserved). There will also be a few 6d. tickets.

PROVINCES.

Wednesday, March 31.—LIVERPOOL, Islington Square, 8 p.m. MIDDLESBROUGH, Children's Party, Suffrage Centre, 6.30 to 9.30. Tickets 6d., in aid of Bazaar Funds.
Monday, April 12.—MIDDLESBROUGH, 8 p.m., "At Home." Speaker: Rev. T. C. Gobat, on "Mrs. Warren's Profession."
Saturday, April 17.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Bazaar, Suffrage Centre, 3-10 p.m. LIVERPOOL, an American Tea, Clarion Café, 3 p.m. Tea 6d. each.
Monday, April 19.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Public Meeting, Suffrage Centre, 8 p.m. Mrs. Close on "The Problem of the Feeble-Minded."
Monday, April 26.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Public Meeting, Suffrage Centre, 8 p.m.; speaker: Miss Cook, "Rabindranath Tagore."

WALES.

Wednesday, March 31.—WELSHPOOL, Public Meeting, Town Hall. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Munro; chair: Miss Alix M. Clark. 8 p.m.
SOUTH WALES CAMPAIGN. Speakers: Miss Anna Munro and Miss Alix M. Clark.
Sunday, April 4.—PONTYCYMMER. Meetings, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Monday, April 5.—PONTYCYMMER. Meetings, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Tuesday, April 6.—COWBRIDGE. Meeting.
Wednesday, April 7.—PORTHCAWL. Meeting.
Friday, April 9.—CARDIFF, Public Meeting, "The Carlton," 8 p.m.
Sunday, April 11.—CARDIFF, Public Meeting, The Ruskin Institute, I.L.P. Rooms, 7 p.m.
Monday, April 12.—CARDIFF, Drawing-Room Meeting, 33, Stacey-rd., 3 p.m.; chair: Mrs. Whale.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Wednesday, March 31.—NORTH LONDON CLARION FELLOWSHIP, Pine House, Holloway-road, N. 8.15; Miss Nina Boyle, "Impertinences."
Wednesday, April 14.—NORTH ORMESBY LIBERAL ASSOCIATION MEETING, 3 p.m.; speaker: Mrs. Schofield Coates.

**Women's Freedom League.
BRANCH AND GROUP SECRETARIES.****LONDON AND SUBURBS.**

Bowes Park.—Miss Todd, 34, Highworth-road, New South-gate, N.
Bromley, Kent.—Mrs. Hope, "Kitsilano," King's-avenue.
Clapham.—Miss UNDERWOOD, 1, Imperial-mansions, Brom-ells-road.

Croydon.—Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue, Croydon.
East London.—Miss NIXON, "Reigate," Lower Park-road, Loughton, Essex.
Golder's Green.—(Pro tem.) Miss A. MITCHELL, 138, Addison-way, Hendon.
Hackney.—Mrs. PIEROTTI, 31, Walsingham-road, Clapton.
Hampstead.—Mrs. PUTZ, 10, The Grange, Maitland Park, N.W.
Harrow.—Mrs. HUNTSMAN, 16, Northwick Park-road, Harrow.
Herne Hill.—Miss W. M. SPRIGGS, 69, Danecroft-road.
Highbury.—Miss JOHN, 11, Canonbury-park South, N.
Hornsey (late Northern Heights).—Miss A. MASTERMAN, 40, Beatrice-road, Stroud Green.
Kensington.—Miss REEVES, 141, Highlever-road.
Mid-London.—Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Ealing.
Nine Elms.—Mrs. DESPARD, 2, Currie-street, Nine Elms.
Regent's Park.—Miss KARPELES, 35, Cumberland Mansions, Streatham and Thornton Heath.—Miss WRIGHT, 1, Bourne-valet-road, Streatham.
Tottenham and Stamford Hill.—Miss F. EGGETT, 30, Lausanne-road, Hornsey; and Mrs. THOMSON, 7, East Bank, Stamford Hill.
Tufnell Park.—Miss BARROW, 202, Brecknock-road, N.

PROVINCES.

Bournemouth.—Mrs. HULL, 234, Old Christchurch-rd.
Brighton and Hove.—Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove.
Burnage.—Mrs. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme, Manchester.
Chester.—Mrs. DU PLERIGNY, 45, St. Werburg-street.
Grantham.—Mrs. STEVENS, 141, Dudley-road, Grantham.
Gravesend.—Miss J. BOORMAN, 4, The Grove, Gravesend.
Grays.—Mrs. TUNSTALL, 3, Heath-road, Chadwell St. Mary.
Hartlepool.—Mrs. ENGLISH, 23, Carlton-street, West Hartlepool.
Ipswich.—Mrs. HOSSACK, 49, Berners-street, Ipswich.
Letchworth.—Miss LEE, 2, Norton Way North.
Liverpool.—
Aintree.—Mrs. SHAW, 15, Chatsworth-avenue, Aintree.
Anfield.—Miss DAVEY, 51, Grey-road, Walton.
Central.—(Pro tem.) Miss BROUGHTON, 61, Borrowdale-road, Liverpool.
Waterloo.—Mrs. EVANS, 49, Kimberley-drive, Great Crosby.
Manchester.—Miss S. HEYES, 260, Worsley-road, Swinton.
Middlesbrough.—Miss A. MAHONY, 35, Albert-terrace.
Portsmouth.—Mrs. WHETTON, 89, Festing-grove, Southsea.
Reading.—Mrs. PENROSE, 100, Hamilton-road, Reading.
Sale.—Miss FILDES, The Studio, Tatton Buildings, Sale.
Sheffield.—Mrs. CODD, 25, Rossington-road, Brocco Bank, Sheffield.
Southampton.—Mrs. GOODYEAR, 33, Shakespeare-avenue, Portswood, Southampton.
South Shields.—Mrs. REVEL, 13, Hepscott-terrace.
Sunderland.—Mrs. PALLISER, 10, Fox-street, Sunderland.
Wellingborough.—Miss V. SHARMAN, Ivy Lodge, Wellingborough; and Mrs. ENGLAND SMITH, Newstead, Hatton Park, Wellingborough.
Winchester.—Miss COSTA, 14, Saxon-road, Winchester.

SCOTLAND.

Cowdenbeath.—Miss FORBES, Black-road, Keltly, Fife.
Dundee.—Mrs. MITCHELL, 13, Clepington-road, Dundee.
Dunfermline.—Miss MYSIE, HEIGH, Elliot-crescent.
Edinburgh.—Miss JACK, 90, Lothian-road, Edinburgh.
Glasgow.—Miss JEANIE SCRYMGEUR, 46, Millbrae-crescent, Langside.
Kilmarnock.—Miss CRAWFORD, 1, Fairyhill-road.
Lochgelly.—Miss MCPETRIE, 6, School-lane, Lochgelly.
Paisley.—Miss CHEYNE, 2, Park-terrace, Underwood-road.
Perth.—Mrs. MACPHERSON, 3, Charlotte-street, Perth.
Rothsay.—Miss GILMOUR, 5, Victoria-street, Rothsay.
Scottish Scattered.—Miss EUNICE G. MURRAY, Moore Park, Cardross, Dumbartonshire.

WALES.

Brynmawr.—Miss M. A. JUDD, Awelfryn, Brynmawr.
Cardiff.—Mrs. WHALE, 33, Stacey-road, Cardiff.
Montgomery Boroughs.—Miss ALIX M. CLARK, 11, Severn-street, Newtown, N. Wales.
Swansea.—Miss HINDSHAW, Training College, Swansea.

GROUPS.

Newbury and Thatcham.—Miss M. ASHMAN, Broad-street, Thatcham.
Peckham.—Mrs. PICKERING, 23, Albert-road, Peckham.
Stowmarket.—Mrs. JOSLING, 59, Limetree-place.
Walkden.—Mrs. ROGERSON, 6, Mayfield-avenue, Walkden, near Manchester.
Wolverhampton.—Mrs. CRESSWELL, 25, Rugby-street.

THE VOTE

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

BRANCH NOTES.

East London.

At our last Branch meeting on March 23 Miss Nixon resigned the hon. secretaryship of the Branch owing to pressure of work. Miss Adams resumed the rôle. The balance sheet was read and the Merchandise account was wound up, so that in future all merchandise profit is to be paid to Headquarters. Miss Smith, who so ably looks after the Emergency Levy Account, gave an encouraging report of the Branch's donations. The next Branch meeting will be at 37, Wellington Buildings, on Monday, Ap. 19, at 6 p.m. Will all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions do so as soon as possible to Miss Adams, and also make them as liberal as they can?

Middlesbrough.

A well attended meeting was held on March 22 in the Suffrage Centre. Miss W. M. Jones presided, and Miss Veitch (N.W.W.S.S.) gave an address on "Women to-day," in which she reviewed the work that has been done by organised bodies of women since the outbreak of the war. A very lively discussion followed and a resolution to the effect that in view of the fact that women's labour is now being required by the Government, women should be paid

on equal terms with men, and also receive their political enfranchisement was carried unanimously, and sent to the local Press. Everyone enjoyed the songs given by Miss Dorothy Nicholson and Mrs. Rees, and the pianoforte solos by Miss Bowen. Mrs. Walker kindly accompanied. Refreshments were served by Miss Hayton and Miss Amy Mahony. The Clothing Committee has received gifts of clothing from Mrs. Barrett and Miss Nicholson, also donation for a pair of boots from Mrs. Schofield Coates. Members and friends are asked to turn up in full force for Mr. Gobat's meeting, April 12.

JOTTINGS.

GOOD NEWS.—"We are glad to note that Miss Mary Hayden, M.A., has again been appointed, by the Crown, a member of the Senate of the National University. There are now two women on this Senate, Miss Agnes O'Farrelly, M.A., having been elected by Convocation."—*Irish Citizen*,

The Mayor of San Francisco, who was once an anti-Suffragist, says the women have put "polite" in politics; that they have refused graft; and that since they have voted (1911) a better standard of morals in politics has become an established fact.

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