

4248

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14

14. IV. 12

Dear Miss Bunsess

As promised yesterday I have done my best to answer the questions for Mr Pethick Lawrence... as follows.

One copy you will please send on to him the other copy is for your file.

I am very anxious to help in anyway I can. I may be subpoenaed or not, as Mr Lawrence thinks well. All I ask is that I may have as much notice as possible, & spend = little time in court in waiting.

Name. Thomas Smithies Taylor.

Address. 2 Newark St Leicester.

Occupation. Scientific Instrument Maker
Consultant on factory organization

Captain commanding an Army Service
Corps Company in Territorial Force

The use of my latter rank has worked wonders in writing to Home office, M.P.s &c.

②

4248

Miss Burgess

14 IV 12

It may be used in this case as necessary
but I do not of course wish to parade it.

Connection with or knowledge of W.P.U.

Ist converted by attending Lloyd George's meeting
of N. Lib women. Albert Hall, when Miss O'Leary
used ~~the~~ top whip, when I saw brutality of
Stewart, when, after his protest, Mr. Newinson
was badly handled & thrown out.

Since then I have spoken at meetings & worked
among the men & M.P.s in favour of votes
for women. I was born & bred a Liberal.
I am not yet a Conservative but I shall
do all I can to end this Government!

I have attended most, if not all, of the crowded
great Albert Hall meetings of W.P.U. & have
taken part in the men's section of two or
three processions.

I have never heard W.P.U. speakers; nor have
I read in "Votes for Women" any incitement
to illegal actions. I consider both to be
of the highest tone of moral teaching.

The paper is to me more interesting, & morally
& politically more educative than any
newspaper.

4248

Miss Burgess

14. IV

12

Re window smashing.

It would require a good deal of pluck on my part to make me do so, but having followed the shameful way in which women taxpayers have been fooled, I see no other way in which they can protest.

I admire the women who have so ~~far~~ protested (my wife included).

I had no previous information that the W.P.M. organised window breaking in Nov or Mar. (I had my suspicions!)

I read "The argument of the broken pane" (I should like to see it again before going evidence)

It struck me as very moderate & logical.

It certainly was less violent, & less likely

to incite to violence than some remarks by

Wm. Claxton, Asquith Lloyd George & Hobhouse!

I should like an outline of my leading questions.

If cross examined as to my ~~attitude~~ attitude being consistent with being officer.

I can fully justify myself!

Yours faithfully

Smithies Taylor

I may be at my London office

18 Berners St. Tele 4591. Forward

on Tues or Thurs. I would meet Mr Lawrence if desired.

(3)
Miss Burgess.

4248

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10

14. 4. 12.

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I may be subpoenaed or not, as Mr. Lawrence thinks well.

All I ask is that I may have as much notice as possible, and spend little time in court in waiting.

Name. Thomas Smithies Taylor.

Address. 2 Newarke Street, Leicester.

Occupation. Scientific Instrument Maker, Consultant on Factory Organization.

Captain Commanding an Army Service Corps Company in Territorial Force.

The use of my latter rank has worked wonders in writing to Home Office. M.P's &c.

It may be used in this case as necessary, but I do not of course wish to parade it.

(2)

Miss Burgess.

Connection with or knowledge of W.S.P.U.

1st converted by attending Lloyd George's meeting of N. Lib. Women, Albert Hall., when Miss Ogden used dog whip, when I saw brutality of Stewards, and when, after his protest, Mr. Nevinson was badly handled and thrown out.

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Yours faithfully.

I may be at my London Office, 18 Berners Street.

Tele: 4591 Gerrard.

on Tuesday or Thursday, and would meet Mr. Lawrence if desired.

(8) 252