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THE VOTE.
April 17, 1914.
ONE PENNY.

A PLACE CALLED "HOLLOWAY."

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. IX. NO. 234.

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FRIDAY, APRIL 17, 1914

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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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Chicago.

The Chicago Municipal election results, with women voting for the first time, have been pounced upon by the anti-woman journalist as showing the futility of enfranchising women. Not one of the nine women candidates succeeded; therefore women may as well not have votes. Had all the women candidates succeeded, we can hear the same authorities solemnly warning the public against the danger of the women's votes—on the "Heads we win, tails you lose" principle so dear to the heart of the anti-suffragist. Mrs. Swanwick called for a suspension of judgment until the actual facts became known; and the knowledge now at hand provides much matter for interest. The defeated Miss Drake, who stood in the central district against the biggest "boss" of the vice interests, polled twice as many votes as his former male opponent, in spite of the Red Light women slaves whom the boss was able to coerce in his own defence. Some 79 or 80 per cent. of the women voted; and in the outside districts, where conditions are less unclean, the women's vote and the temperance triumph went hand in hand without any conflict or ill-feeling on the part of the men voters. Altogether, for a first effort, it would seem to have been highly satisfactory and full of good boding for the future. Even *The Daily Mail* informs its readers that all accounts agree that the elections were the most orderly and decent on record, and puts down this happy result to the presence of women voters.

Male Militants Again!

A few unconsidered items from the daily Press, culled at hazard during the week-end, deserve more attention than masculine editorial opinion is willing to bestow on them. Wild, shrieking, disorderly women and their "antics" occupy a considerable space; but there is no condemnation for the wild, shrieking, disorderly associates of Sir Edward Carson, who "reviewed" 3,000 volunteers in Belfast, this ceremony being the beginning of a "week's work in the open." The West Belfast Volunteers celebrated the sanctity of Easter Sunday by a "church parade," at which the Rev. W. Corkey (we cannot sufficiently congratulate this gentleman on the efficiency and appropriateness of his name), the resident Presbyterian minister, thanked God in his opening prayer for having within the last few weeks "brought to nought the schemes and plots and plans of wicked men"—a silly allusion to the silly scream about an intended "massacre" in Ulster which Unionists beg a public less silly than they take them for to believe was proposed by the Government. We should be the last to deny that the reverend gentleman's description of "wicked men" was anything but accurate; but we would like to point out that if Suffragists had to lash each other into militancy by shouting or preaching such silly nonsense as is being talked and retailed by these amateur revolutionaries, we should be ashamed.

The Double Standard.

All this stuff is served up, not only in the hysterical columns of Mr. Garvin and his imitators, but in the Government papers also. After reading the blood-thirsty preparations of the Orangemen, it falls quite flat to find only one item, stuffed away in a corner—as if aware of its feebleness—telling of a "daring outrage" perpetrated by the adherents of Mr. Redmond. Near Moate, Westmeath, the house of a man mixed up in a land dispute was fired into and riddled with bullets. No arrests, of course, have been made of these jokers, any more than of Sir Edward's bravos; arrest is only for voteless women, and men who as yet have no powerful following. And when arrest does occur, as in the case of Capt. White, D.S.O., it ends in mutual apologies and withdrawals all round, the law-breakers, official and unofficial, retiring from the contest "with-

out a stain on their characters," in spite of the hard swearing that preceded the encounter. Or, again, when Mr. Simon Spicer (once more we find delight in the name of this militant person) appeared before the Aldershot magistrates, charged with having, as one of a party of six, at the Aldershot Hippodrome, expressed his dislike of the performance by, first, raising a wild row and then assaulting the manager and an attendant with great violence and disturbing the whole theatre; we do not find him sternly rebuked for bringing discredit on his sex, or his cause (if he has one), or his profession (he is a cadet at the Royal Military College, Sandhurst, and is described as an officer and a gentleman). Not at all. The magistrate, fining this pleasant gentleman £2 2s. for the attack on the attendant, and £3 3s. for the attack on the manager—in a spirit of strict observance of social distinctions—observed in apology that "The country had need of such spirit, but in this instance it had been misapplied." The only regrettable occurrence, in the magistrate's mind, apparently, was that now the Hippodrome had been put out of bounds; and he hoped on this account that Mr. Spicer's conduct would be "a warning to others."

A Searchlight.

Women are waking up, says a writer in *The Times*, to the fact that there is no need for the terrible loss of child life, pre-natal or ante-natal, and the utter neglect of the needs of motherhood which disgrace our present-day conditions. We should put it differently and say: women have been awake for some time, but it has taken continuous hammering on the apathy of authority to make men realise the need for action guided by woman's knowledge and experience. At last it is dawning on some of them that man-made and administered laws are a *reductio ad absurdum* where child life is concerned. The Insurance Act has been a searchlight as regards the health of women, especially married women, and the revelations of the Fabian Committee have shown the ignorant blundering of the framers of the Act. No provision is made for pre-natal needs, and the man's wisdom with regard to the maternity benefit allows all kinds of ways for the 30s. to escape into the wrong channels, and many who need it are left out altogether. Recently a deputation of the Women's Co-operative Guild waited on Mr. Herbert Samuel, the new President of the Local Government Board, to urge, among other needful reforms, the provision of maternity centres by the municipal authorities, a Treasury grant for the purpose and the appointment of municipal midwives—even the transference of the maternity benefit administration from under the Insurance Act to the local authorities. We can hail the following declaration in *The Times* as a belated sign of wisdom:—

Approved Societies are utterly unfitted for dealing with maternity. They have not the requisite knowledge; it is absurd for young clerks to make decisions after consulting medical dictionaries.

In the meantime:—

Dr. Arnaud Routh estimates that the loss of infant life during the nine months of pregnancy is about equal to that during the first year of life. And to this must be added the fact that the deaths in the first week of life are probably due to ante-natal causes.

The United States has set an example in establishing a Children's Department with a woman at its head, and the Report of the Baby Saving Campaigns of the Department of Labour show that, "in the registration area 23 per cent. of the infants who died under one year of age died within the first week." We commend this searchlight to bachelor Bishops and other men who presume to lecture women on their duties to the nation, and we point out that the only way of wisdom for such self-elected admonishers is to insist that women are given the right to put a stop to the awful wastage by the leverage of the Vote.

We shall deal next week with the Report of the Civil Service Commission especially as it affects women.

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SYMPATHY WITH OUR PRESIDENT.

All members of the League, as well as her many friends at home and abroad, will hear with sincere regret that our President, Mrs. Despard, has been seriously ill during the past fortnight. Rest and care are the doctor's strict injunctions. These she is getting amid helpful and favourable surroundings in Cornwall, and we trust that the progress made will continue uninterrupted till complete recovery is attained. Meanwhile from far and near sympathy and good wishes are expressed.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

Readers are reminded that our Discussion Meetings begin again Monday evening, April 20, when Miss H. Newcomb will give an address at 1, Robert-street on "The Awakening of Women: British Dominions Overseas." The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock.

Wednesday afternoon, April 22, we shall resume our meetings at Caxton Hall, the speakers being Miss Nina Boyle and Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell, the title of whose address is "Chivalry and the Wage-earning Woman: Fact and Fiction." The chair will be taken by Mrs. Tanner at 3.30. The following Wednesday afternoon the Rev. C. Baumgarten will speak on "Justice, and the Franchise from the Church Point of View."

Friday evening, April 24, we shall hold a Women's Freedom League Reception at Caxton Hall to the following ex-prisoners:—Miss Andrews, Mrs. Ball, Miss Bellamy, Mrs. Cubley, Miss Cummin, Mrs. Hull, Miss Isaac, Miss MacLennan, Miss Rushbrook, Miss K. Smith, Miss N. Strange, Miss Trott. Prison Badges will be presented to them, and it is hoped that members and friends in London will rally in force to welcome them. The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock.

Admission to all these meetings is free, but reserved seat tickets for the Prisoners' Reception can be obtained from 1, Robert-street, at 1s. each.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

POLITICAL AND MILITANT. FINGER-PRINT INSULT.

The twelve prisoners committed to Holloway for picketing the office of Sir Charles Mathews and causing annoyance to that official, not to the public, as alleged by the police, are now released. Mrs. Ball came out on Wednesday, Miss Cummin and Miss Balham on Thursday, Miss Trott and Miss Isaac on Saturday morning, and Miss Andrews and Mrs. Hull on Saturday at noon. All were in splendid spirits and ready to begin again. Miss Underwood, Dr. Knight, Miss Hunt, Mrs. Strange, Miss MacLennan, Miss Rushbrooke, Mrs. Cubley, Mrs. Pierotti, Mrs. Hyde, and Miss Boyle, and other sympathisers, were among the groups waiting for the prisoners when they came out; and that there was no one to meet Mrs. Hull and Miss Andrews was due to the unexpected payment of the remnant of their fines.

Five of the prisoners broke the rules as a protest against not being taken to D. X. Wing; and broke their windows and utensils as a protest against being confined to their cells without exercise. They also did

a hunger-strike. These protests are now necessary, as the Governor is in process of steadily whittling away the privileges won with so much suffering and struggle, under Rule 243a. This rule enabled the Governor to grant anything up to first division treatment, and was carried out in the following manner: Complete separation from the third division prisoners; permission to associate at exercise, to wear their own clothes, to receive parcels of food, clothing, and books; to take in toilet and other necessaries; and to be recognised as "persons whose offences do not involve moral turpitude."

The Governor has broken the bond in every way. Our prisoners were lodged in F. Wing, after a night in those hospitals of whose insanitary filthiness we have had such ghastly revelations of late; and were among, and in association with, the third division all the time of their imprisonment. With the usual official and insolent untruthfulness, the Governor denied that D. X. Wing had ever been allotted to Suffrage prisoners. One was not allowed to have her rug; another was not allowed to have her books; volumes of philosophy, &c., were arbitrarily detained; books sent in were doled out as the Governor chose, and many have been kept altogether; parcels were detained, and have not reappeared. Attempts of the most violent and abominable kind were made to take the finger-prints of our prisoners, as if they had been common criminals; and information was given them by women who were in for drunkenness and other disorderly crimes that no attempt was ever made to take their finger-prints! Miss Isaac and Miss Vincent were nastily hurt during these struggles; and a curious feature of the treatment is that no attempt was made to take the finger-prints of Miss Cummin, while Miss Balham petitioned the Home Secretary, who said he saw "no necessity for interference"; yet the attempt was not renewed! Miss Andrews also petitioned, in spite of the unsatisfactory answer received by Miss Balham, and no further attempt was made on her.

For resisting this outrage (successfully) Miss Isaac was confined to her cell for 95 hours, and Miss Trott for seven days, without exercise, in cells with only two tiny panes that opened. It was time they were smashed.

It is in direct defiance of the prison rules, of which every prisoner has a copy supplied in a frame; to keep any prisoner without exercise, for punishment, for more than three days on end. In the case of our prisoners, therefore, and in the case of every hunger-striker, this rule has been callously and illegally broken by the Governor's own orders!

It is the people who make the laws, and who are always prating that it is their duty to administer the laws, and who, besides, are paid to an appallingly extravagant tune to do so, who are the chief law-breakers. Any official, "dressed in a little brief authority," can drive a coach-and-four through rule and regulation, statute and constitution, whenever it is to his advantage to do so. And the fact that women, no matter what they win, or no matter what sacrifice and suffering went to the winning of it, cannot keep

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that which was won for a single day if it suits any male person's, or any group of male persons' advantage or convenience, is plainly shown by this new attack on the rights of political prisoners, which were practically guaranteed by Mr. Churchill, and are now being withdrawn by his successor. The vote, and the vote alone, will enable women to protect what they win, and prevent these constant attacks upon their position and their rights.

A reception to the released prisoners will be held on April 24.

MR. ASQUITH IN EAST FIFE. SUCCESSFUL PLACARDING.

Although the Unionists did not contest the Prime Minister's seat in East Fife, the Women's Freedom League put its case clearly before the electors. In Leven we have had several enthusiastic meetings, and our literature sold well, "Liberal Cant" being in great demand. Everywhere we met with friends and sympathisers, and many practical expressions of goodwill. "You have a good Cause, and you are good fighters," said an old farmer as he stopped to buy Suffrage literature for "those at home."

Our organiser sends further particulars thus—

The most drastic precautions were made to protect the Premier from the Suffragettes when he addressed the electors at Ladybank on April 4. No woman was admitted to the meeting, and to keep out male sympathisers with the woman's movement only delegates were allowed to enter the building. The police arrangements were on an extensive scale. The whole route by which Mr. Asquith was expected to come was closely patrolled by cyclist policemen; while the crowd which had gathered to witness his arrival was not permitted to come within measurable distance of the hall, guarded by a strong force of foot and mounted police. A line of police standing shoulder to shoulder, with the mounted police in the centre, prevented the spectators from getting too near; it was evident that a large contingent of plain clothes men from Scotland Yard was present.

The utmost sympathy and interest were shown to the women, and the remarks overheard proved that the importance of the question of "Votes for Women" was fully recognised. All over the constituency there are signs of the growing discontent of the electors against the Government's trickery towards women fighting for freedom.

On Tuesday the League visited Cupar, and held a successful protest meeting on the Corn Exchange. Miss Janet Bunten presided, and Miss Ada Broughton spoke. A handbill protesting against the re-election of Mr. Asquith was widely distributed. In the evening Miss Bunten and Miss Broughton placarded all the most important buildings, hoardings, telegraph poles, &c., with a large poster protesting against the re-election of the Premier because his pledges to women remain unfulfilled. The nomination notices on the public buildings were covered, including those at the Sheriff's Court, Ladybank, Springfield, and Cupar were placarded, and along the two-mile road from Springfield to Cupar every other telegraph pole was ornamented with our posters, also the gates of private residences. The work was successfully and secretly accomplished, but the next day special precautions were taken to safeguard the county buildings; at the Sheriff's Court policemen were stationed to watch all entrances.

The Northern Men Demonstrate.

At a demonstration by the Northern Men's Federation at Leven on April 4 the speakers announced the intention of the Federation to oppose Mr. Asquith's return when the General Election took place because of his attitude on Women's Suffrage.

Councillor Barrie declared that to take women into the counsels of Government would be for the good of the whole

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community. Mr. Illingworth (Glasgow) denounced the Liberal Government for the way it had dealt with the Women's Question. Mr. Henry Drummond pointed out that in progressive countries such as New Zealand, Australia, Norway, and many of the United States the women had been granted the Franchise with the best results, both from the social and the economic stand-points. A coloured gentleman in the audience, who came from Illinois, made an earnest appeal to the men in the audience to support the women in this country in their fight for political freedom, showing the good that had resulted from the Women's Vote in his own country. A substantial addition to the membership of the Federation was made at the meetings.

W.F.L. CAMPAIGN AT THE NATIONAL UNION OF TEACHERS' CONFERENCE, LOWESTOFT.

With the arrival of Miss Anna Munro on April 6, the Women's Freedom League began their Campaign at the annual Conference of the National Union of Teachers; permission had been given by the Town Clerk and Superintendent of Police to hold open-air meetings on two of the best pitches in the town. On Tuesday, the night of our first meeting, a great sensation was created when we drove around the town in a gaily decorated wagonette with the Freedom League colours flying. We quickly gathered a large crowd on the Triangle. Miss Munro dealt with the A.B.C. of Votes for Women—an appropriate speech, as a large number of men and women in her audience had very vague ideas on the subject. The small boy became rather unruly towards the end of the meeting, but a visit to the Superintendent of the Police next morning soon put matters right. He was, in fact, much perturbed that we had suffered any annoyance, and assured us that "in future everything shall be done for your comfort," with the result that throughout the campaign the police have been most attentive, and have dealt in a most effective way with any exuberance of youthful spirits.

We announced that meetings would be held on the Triangle each night at 8 p.m., and on Waveny-road at 3 p.m. On Wednesday night Miss Munro had a great reception from thousands of people who were waiting for the arrival of our wagonette, and a magnificent meeting was held. On Thursday and Friday nights even greater success attended our meetings, the Triangle, which holds from 8,000 to 10,000 people, being packed.

On Friday the delegates began to arrive, and we warmly welcomed the Women Freedom Leaguers, the Misses Mahony, Clark and Hayton, of Middlesbrough; Misses Jones, Sims, Todd, Eggett, and Adams from London; the Misses Neal and Mrs. Kemp; all have helped by selling THE VOTE, literature, &c.

On Saturday both meetings were held on Waveny-road; in the evening the audience was unwilling to let Miss Munro go. Towards the end of the meeting, some of the members from the Anti-Suffrage League came to heckle, but Miss Munro dealt with them in such an effective manner that spontaneous cheers were given by the audience. The Antis silently left—wiser, and we hope saner, men and women.

On Sunday the Trades Union kindly offered us their platform, and Miss Munro again spoke to a crowded audience.

The Women's Freedom League is very much to the front; the inhabitants of Lowestoft say it is much more like a Suffrage than an N.U.T. Conference. As our decorated wagonette drives daily through the streets, we hear, "There go the Freedom Leaguers!" "Cheer up good old Freedom Leaguers!" &c.

A good deal of canvassing has been done, and over 600 copies of THE VOTE sold in one week, besides other Suffrage literature, badges, merchandise, &c.

The report of the campaign will be continued in next week's issue of THE VOTE, and an article by Miss Mary Sims will also appear, entitled "An Impression of the N.U.T. Conference."

Alix Minnie Clark,
Hon. Organiser.

THE WOMEN TEACHERS' FRANCHISE UNION.

ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT LOWESTOFT.

The Women Teachers' Franchise Union held a public meeting in the Wesley Hall, Lowestoft, on Saturday evening previous to the opening of the National Union of Teachers' Conference. During the afternoon a poster parade was organised, advertising the meeting, and giving the reasons why women teachers want the vote. The chair was taken by the president, Miss Agnes Dawson, a London delegate to Conference.

Dr. Barbara Tchaykovsky, a London school doctor, moved the following resolution:—

"That this meeting of delegates of the N.U.T. and others desires to record its conviction that it is in the best interests of education that women be granted the Parliamentary franchise."

Dr. Tchaykovsky said she had acquired this conviction in her public capacity as a school doctor. Teachers in their work are brought up against the social conditions of the homes of the people. They get to know the things that the children lack—want of sleep, of clothes and of food—as well as an insight into the labour problems of the day. The mothers of the children in their care consult them on many matters, and women teachers know that a man can do worse things to his wife without punishment than he can to a woman not his wife. They know, too, that offences against property receive harder sentences than those against little children. Women, she said, are tired of waiting for men to remedy these laws. Teachers fed necessitous children long before the legislature thought of it. Some people do not wish to grant women the vote because they are in the majority, but more boy babies are born than girls, and when women have the lever of the vote they will insist on improved conditions to stop the great infant mortality, and restore the balance of the sexes. The age of consent must be raised; the majority of the mothers of illegitimate children born in the work-houses are under eighteen years of age. Teachers know that children under sixteen are made mothers. These are the things which women are determined to face and alter. We are told, concluded the doctor, that the N.U.T. must not touch politics, but as Mrs. Perkins Gilman has said, "Politics are not outside the home, but inside the baby."

Mr. Laurence Housman seconded the resolution, and declared that it was the recovery by women of the right to education which had set going this great woman's movement. He compared the sentences given for offences against property with those given for offences against children and young girls. Mr. Housman was followed by Miss Nancy Lightman, a London teacher, who dealt with the subject from the teachers' and children's point of view. She thought that the granting of votes to women would do much for children, because the people who knew would be able to control the people who legislated. The N.U.T. members who wished to prevent women from discussing this question in the N.U.T. were content to spend £6,000 a year on Parliamentary representation, but the bulk of the money came from the women's pockets. Problems still being discussed by Conference, such as the feeding of necessitous children, size of classes, and medical inspection, would have been settled long ago if women had had the vote. The resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority, only five voting against it.

Mr. Dakers, B.A., the outgoing president of the N.U.T., Miss Cleghorn, M.A., former president of the N.U.T., and Mr. Allen Croft, of the Executive, added words of sympathy and encouragement.

IRENE D. POULTER.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Scottish Home Rule—Women and the Vote.

A question was raised at the annual meeting in Edinburgh on April 7 of the Convention of Scottish Burghs, on a motion in favour of a Scottish Home Rule Parliament, whether women should have votes. Proposals were made to exclude women, and to give them a vote on the same terms as men, but eventually an amendment that they have a vote on the lines of the present municipal franchise was carried. During the discussion it was argued that women should be excluded on the ground that it was introducing a political question!

What else is introduced at a political meeting? Lord Provost Stevenson (Glasgow) said he was strongly in favour of the inclusion of women. Local self-government, he said, was the foremost political question before the Convention at the present time, and the wish to bar that discussion because it was dealing with politics appeared to him out of place. If they wished women to take an intelligent interest in the affairs of the country they should give them the vote.

The Independent Labour Party and Woman's Suffrage.

The report of the I.L.P. Members of Parliament presented to the "Coming-of-Age" Conference at Bradford, stated that if nothing is done further in this Parliament on the Woman's Suffrage question it will be necessary to make the question a prominent issue at the next General Election, "so that the Government will not be able to make the excuse that there is no popular mandate for the reform."

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WOMEN AND PEACE.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

Madam.—My attention has been called to an article in *The Herald of the Golden Age*, by Mr. Sidney Beard, referring to a League established by Sir Max Waechter, D.S., J.P., for promoting the Federation of the European Powers to bring about Universal Peace. Mr. Beard seems fully to realise how vital this subject is to women, but what he does not realise is that because it is so important to them, not only are they themselves wronged by being excluded from bringing direct influence to bear on Governments, but that the nation generally suffers. No one can fail to see that women, whose husbands, brothers, and sons form the Army and Navy, would leave no stone unturned to insure peace. With recent revelations before us we know how men engineer wars for commercial purposes.

One of the arguments of the Anti-Suffragist is that women do not care enough for the military glory of their country.

If Mr. Beard, instead of inviting women to help men's organisations, would bring his pen and influence to bear on furthering the cause of Woman Suffrage, he would find this would do more to bring about the end he and his friends desire than by the multiplication of Leagues and Societies. War, drunkenness, sexual vice, are matters that may bring us into conflict with men, but they are certainly not matters on which we are indifferent.

M. C. H.

IN REGENT'S PARK.

The Mid-London Branch held its usual Sunday meeting in Regent's Park on April 5. In spite of the uncertain weather there was a good audience. Mrs. Tanner and Mrs. Hyde were the speakers. Mrs. Tanner's sympathetic remarks on the "Weatherall" case were listened to with profound attention. Many questions were asked.

On April 12 Miss Boyle was the speaker, Mrs. Hyde presiding. The beautiful weather attracted a large crowd, who listened with keen interest to Miss Boyle's review of the political situation. Many who attend these meetings regularly expressed their pleasure in again welcoming her.

THE BOMB-SHELL.

A TRUE EXPERIENCE OF PALM SUNDAY.

The tired Suffragist woman sat in the fashionable Church of St. Cyril's and wondered vaguely why she had come. The service seemed so irrelevant. She felt God was far away from this clean, well-dressed congregation. What had they to do with the worship of a carpenter's Son? She knew the people, had lived amongst them many years as neighbours—to a certain extent on terms of outward friendship. But she had little sympathy with them. She knew how useless it was to preach the gospel of women's freedom to these women at ease in Zion. Nothing they hated more than the suggestion that there were other places in the Empire less clean and comfortable; nothing they hated more than the indecent revelations of Suffragists' speeches—it was not "nice to have to hear about such subjects; and, besides, the Vicar was the President of the Wimblesstead Anti-Suffrage Society, and regarded the whole question as against Christianity and the writings of St. Paul.

Nothing ever changed in Wimblesstead; the place was conservative; people rarely even died; and then she remembered that the Anti-suffragist Vicar had been made a Dean, and to her surprise she saw a younger man, with a keen, ascetic face, was already sitting on the south of the choir. With a sigh, the tired Suffragist remembered she would have to call on his wife, and already she had more engagements than she could get through. She wondered if he was as hostile to the Suffrage as his predecessor, and decided he must be, or no one would have made him Vicar of Wimblesstead.

The tired Suffragist felt her thoughts wandering, and asked herself why she came. The answer was that she had strong religious instincts, and hated to let the spiritual side of her nature die of atrophy. Then she liked the hymns for Palm Sunday and church music generally, and St. Cyril's was rich enough to pay for a good choir and organist. Also, she had a taste for Elizabethan



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logue.

English, and loved to hear the roll of the liturgy, the music of the Psalms.

The tired Suffragist sat politely bored whilst the curate preached. It was not a clever sermon—delivered on a tub in the park not half-a-dozen people would have paused to listen—but the congregation sat politely bored too. They were used to it and expected nothing better. Like most members of the Anglican Church, they unconsciously practised the precepts of George Herbert: "Judge not the preacher . . . if all want sense, God takes a text and preacheth patience."

At length he finished, and the procession wound round the church singing the great hymn for Palm Sunday.

Once again spiritual pride seized the tired Suffragist. What did these surpliced priests, these overdressed women, know of the tragedy of that great procession to Jerusalem, of the fickle herd of men, of their coward cry: "To-day Hosannah, to-morrow Crucify"? She remembered the horrors she had faced with the rest of the women of her movement. They had heard the cheers and shouts of applause changing so quickly to jeers and groans of derision. They, frail women and young girls, had faced hostile mobs, and had watched the cruel, brutal faces pressing suffocatingly around. They had been stoned and pelted with filth and offal, had heard the filthy jests and obscenity, had felt their garments torn from them by polluting hands.

Yes, they knew Christian England in all its horror. What a mockery was this worship, how far removed from realities, how ignorant of life!

The music ceased, and she heard a voice asking in short, unpolished sentences that "we should remember before God the troubles in Ireland, the industrial unrest, the unheeded demand for Women's Suffrage."

As if a bomb-shell had exploded around, the congregation rustled its plumes and furs in indignant protest; the atmosphere was charged as if with an electric current of wrath at this impudent innovator, but the tired Suffragist felt her faith come back in a warm glow, and at least one genuine prayer went up that day from the fashionable congregation of St. Cyril's.

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

A DESERVED HONOUR.

Congratulations, hearty and sincere, to Miss S. Gertrude Ford, poet and suffragist, member of the Women's Freedom League and generous contributor to THE VOTE, on the appreciative editorial note in which Mr. Stephen Phillips calls attention to her Ode "To Poetry—an Appeal," in the March number of *The Poetry Review*. He speaks of "this genuine poetess's appealing work" which many have learned to know and love in *The Poetry Review*, also in *The Westminster Gazette* and other publications, as well as in her published volumes. Mr. Stephen Phillips also tells how Mr. W. T. Stead was wont to call Miss Ford his "poetical conscience," how Mr. A. G. Gardiner, editor of *The Daily News*, has complimented her on her "flawless form," and how distinguished critics, among them Mr. Stopford Brooke and Mr. Masterman—he might have included Mrs. Alice Meynell—have often praised her work. He adds that Miss Ford's work is done under "such ponderous drawbacks" as life-long ill-health, which has crippled ordinary education and the delights of travel, but not relieved her of the necessity of supporting herself by free lance journalism. These facts, he remarks, will enhance the admiration of readers of *The Poetry Review* for Miss Ford's work, and he concludes by expressing regret "that so genuine a banner-bearer of the cause of poetry should be unable to give up her full and whole energy to this cause she has so near at heart."

From the poem, which is one of the finest Miss Ford

has written, and is an appeal to poetry to fulfil her high mission, we take the following:—

Wherefore rise up!
Drain thou no longer Pleasure's festal cup;
String thou no more, for toys at dancing-time,
The rosaries of rhyme.
Tarry thou where the fog the gaslight blurs,
Where the wan outcast weeps for guilt not hers,
But theirs who starved her to it; where by stealth
Want creeps, at aome of the whole world's wealth;
Where faints lone Virtue for one succouring word—
There let thy voice be heard!
Persephone's returning smile
Relinquish thou; nor cull, nor wear,
Her scattered flowers; forbear awhile
To gather gold-dust on thy hair
From all the stars—
Break down the prison gate! undo the heavy bars!
Be thou the Theseus of that Minاتور;
Glutted with maiden tribute evermore;
Nay, be the Orpheus who undid full well,
And merely by a song's soft-woven spell,
The gates of hell.

THE "PROTECTED" SEX.

Killed.

Mrs. Percy Clifford, in lodgings at Brighton, found dead on bed, soaked with blood, by the landlord. Husband, a coloured man, also severely injured, having shot himself after killing his wife. Jealousy is supposed to have been the motive.

Mrs. Barford, Cranfeld, found shot Sunday of last week in her home, a lonely house, her husband, a gamekeeper, being also dead. The police were summoned by the terrified tale of the little seven-year-old daughter, who came for help, having spent the night alone in the house with the two corpses. The man had been found fault with by his employer. Local feeling runs high because a married woman in the village had been for a jaunt with the man unknown to his wife the day before the murder. The effigy of a woman was burnt amid jeers and hoots, and a strong force of police has been drafted into the village.

Mrs. Greenly and her daughter, Stafford, shot by James Greenly; and Lizzie Alison, adopted daughter, seriously injured. Lizzie Alison appeared at a neighbour's house covered with blood, terrifying a child who opened the door. She was unable to tell a connected story, and was taken to hospital in a state of collapse; a bullet was subsequently extracted from her head. Greenly, who was arrested, himself opened the door to the police. He shot his wife in the early morning, and then shot his daughter and adopted daughter. The latter feigned death, but he was suspicious and mounted guard over her for hours as she lay bleeding.

Brutal Assault.

Mrs. Sorby, Leeds, brutally attacked by her husband, with whom she was on bad terms, with a piece of iron. Seen running out of the house, face and head streaming with blood. Man then killed himself with a butcher's knife.

Mrs. Mainwaring, Whit-church, brutally assaulted by her husband, who had for years ill-used her. Found with bleeding, lacerated hands, endeavouring to protect her head from blows with a heavy knobbed stick, which had blood and hair on it. She was scantily dressed and bore marks of continued ill-usage, eyes blackened, cut, bruised, and with swellings and lacerations on her body. The Bench "listened with horror," and gave **four months**.

Suffragists get six months for breaking a window-pane.

Mrs. Wilkinson, Seaham Harbour, fired at five times by her husband on finding her with another man. He "only meant to frighten them into a confession of guilt." **Committed for trial.**

Mrs. West, Kingston, assaulted by her lodger, Alfred Wright, who owed her rent. She asked for the money, and he threw a bed quilt over her, tying it round her neck with a rope and tried to smother her. Hearing screams, a neighbour came, but found the door bolted. She got in at the back, and found Mrs. West, blood trickling out of her mouth. The man then tried to escape. The Mayor of Kingston said it was a "very serious assault," and gave him **one month**.

Miss Sherry, travelling between Crewe and Derby, attacked in compartment by Harry Greaves, a railway fireman, who pulled a pair of gloves over the electric light globes. She managed to pull the communication cord, and Greaves jumped out of the carriage. He was found walking on the line with terrible wounds on his face, and said he had fallen out of the train. **Fined 40s.**

Suffragists get 40s. or 14 days for distributing leaflets on the pavement.

Caroline Thomas, Swansea, driving in taxicab with Frederick Skinner, asked the chauffeur, Lewis Llewellyn, to drive her back to her home, as she was afraid of Skinner. Skinner threatened the chauffeur, and after a struggle fired several shots, wounding Llewellyn. In the dock, made vile allegations against Miss Thomas, and owned that he had fired "at the



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tyres," to give Llewellyn something else to think of. **Committed for trial.**

Mrs. McCarthy, St. George's, assaulted by her husband, who threw boiling water over her head and shoulders. Removed to hospital in great agony; her condition critical. Man charged with causing bodily harm. **Remanded.**

Miss Wells, Lewisham, cycling with her fiancé in Kent, run down by a motor with two men, who did not stop. Miss Wells injured; Mr. Tyrell, her fiancé, died on being brought to the infirmary.

Three schoolgirls went to the assistance of a constable in Birmingham who was set upon by roughs. The officer was kicked and bitten; Phoebe Shenton, who blew his whistle, was violently assaulted, receiving blows in the face and having her wrist badly wrenched. Arthur Vickers, one of three brothers, was sentenced to **two months** for assaulting the policeman, **one month** for assaulting the girl. The other two got **six months** and **three months** for attacking the constable.

Mrs. Kerr, Aberdeen, blind, set upon by her husband when the worse for drink, dragged out of bed by the throat, repeatedly struck while on the floor, her neck cut and torn with his nails, and thrown out on the landing and left there. The police-court bench, after the usual "stern" denunciation of such brutal conduct, **fined Kerr 20s.**

Child Murder.

Besides the unfortunate child, Minnie Scott, committed to take her trial for the wilful murder of her child (by her sister's husband) at the Leeds Assizes, Annie Rawson (25), of Ossington, and Thomasina Armstrong, of Carlisle, have both been committed to take their trial, the one for child murder and the other for concealment of birth, in regard to the bodies of babies born and concealed. No mention of the guilty men, fathers of these children, who left them and their mothers to a cruel fate, is made in any of the cases.

THE PIONEER PLAYERS will produce on Sunday, May 3, *The Patience of the Sea*, by Conal O'Riordan (Norrays Connell), and a public performance will be given on Monday afternoon, May 4. The principal woman's part is to be played by Miss Gertrude Kingston, supported by Messrs. Harcourt Williams and Basil Hallam. Tickets for Monday's performance should be obtained from the Secretary, Pioneer Players' Office, 139, Long-acre, W.C. Phone 4086 Regent.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, April 17, 1914.

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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MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS.

Outbreaks of Feminophobia, if one may coin an expression, have been rife of late. That spirit of intolerant interference with the liberties of other people, that meddling determination to mind everybody's business except his own which so frequently disfigures the record of "enlightened" man, has broken out badly during the past few weeks, in new places and also in old. Not in Great Britain or the British Empire alone; oh, dear no. From Belgium, from France, from Germany, from the United States, we find these tokens of the universal brotherhood of man embracing in one comprehensive swirl kings, bishops, parsons, male persons of the commoner kind, and the editor of *The Times*.

The London County Council, among the commoner kind of males, have been guilty of this impertinence in a fashion which, when women vote, will probably be made a punishable offence. It is their habit, it appears, to meddle with the private affairs of their employees, in ways no longer possible for certain classes of firms. It is amazing that this bad, old fashion should survive in a public concern that is supposed to be controlled by the people. Doctors appointed by this body are to resign, if they be women, on marriage; and it appears that their charwomen already have to do so. We wonder what professional men would say if their treatment were to be levelled down to that of the porters? The married woman, it is solemnly declared, has other duties. She is to stay at home and mind her babies and her kitchen. It matters not that the additional income from her professional duties will enable her to keep better nurses and more servants; and we wonder how much longer these impudent meddlers will keep their hands off the Society woman, who certainly should have her visiting and balls curtailed under this drastic system of minding other people's business. The chief satisfaction to be derived from it is, that the longer it goes on the heavier will be the reckoning exacted by women, who are getting thoroughly roused.

The King of the Belgians took a hand in the fascinating pursuit of woman-baiting a short while back. At a Court function, a lady was by his orders escorted to her carriage by the Lord Chamberlain or corresponding functionary, because she appeared in a slit skirt. She was informed that her dress was torn and she had better go home and get it mended, which was piling insult upon insult. It is hardly the part of a well-bred man to heap insults on ladies in Society; so we can only presume that the new King of the Belgians is as great a "bounder" as his late parent, only in a different way; and his conduct appears in an even more unpleasing light when we consider that his own costume in Royal toggery is the same as that which he condemned in the lady, *i.e.*, a robe, flung back to show silk-stockinged legs and breeches—only he shows more of them.

Evil communications, we know, are quick in spreading corruption. The Kaiser, fired with emulation and

regretting that King Albert had got in before him, promptly issued a decree that the wives of officers in his army were not to be allowed to ride astride. This preposterous piece of meddling was backed up by the pronouncement of some complacent medical back-number, who docilely declared that riding astride was bound, sooner or later, to injure the female person who indulged in it, and as "the mother of the race," it behoved them to see that woman was made to take precautions on behalf of the race. Apart from the ludicrously inaccurate medical dictum—for the boot is entirely on the other foot: riding astride cannot possibly hurt women and does very frequently hurt men—one feels inclined to suggest to the Kaiser that there are many things injurious to the race, and to the women that mother the race, that his own sex might well look to, if they were not so fatally inclined to the practice of minding any business except their own.

The Times, for the second time in quite a short period, is seriously perturbed about women's clothing. It is, surely, a "sign of the times" that so much prominent space must be devoted to this topic, and so little else can be found to use as a weapon against women's claims to equality. Some people are never tired of railing at "pneumonia" and "peek-a-boo" blouses, narrow skirts which prevent women from walking, split skirts which enable them to do so, long skirts that gather dirt, short skirts that display the ankle, open necks that court chills, cloaked up necks loaded with furs, and any and every other way in which woman chooses to garb herself, no matter what it may be. It is a pity these people have not more to do. *The Times*, however, is in stately company. The Archbishop of Besançon has joined in the denunciation of "modern" dress, apparently in the most complete ignorance that it was the usual custom among those grandmothers of ours whose virtues are always being extolled by them. Low neck and bare arms was the correct and maidenly costume in very early Victorian days, when "modesty" reigned supreme and the Suffragette was unknown. We do not know why it has suddenly become immodest, but the Archbishop will not tolerate open necks or bare arms in church, and threatens to refuse Confirmation and Communion throughout his diocese to those who continue so to dress. A lesser dignitary, the Rev. Mr. Eales, to wit, of Waltham Cross, has decreed that he and his curates will refuse to celebrate marriages in his district when bridesmaids' heads are not covered. We do not know which of these Christian (or, is it Oriental?) gentlemen to admire most, and we are glad *The Times* is in such congenial company!

The category would not be complete without an allusion to the police-court magistrate, who recently asked a girl who applied for advice in the case of a loss she had sustained, what a certain hieroglyphic meant, and she replied, "cigarette-case." This Solon then committed himself to the hope that she would not recover her property, as he "did not believe in girls smoking." A more impudent abuse of his position it would be difficult to imagine.

"Mind your own business" has been called—by men—"the Golden Rule." It is, like so many other of their pet principles, one they do not care to have to apply in any practical fashion. They will insist on their supreme ability to manage our business for us, and to resent our determination to keep them to their own; while the business which they claim, *par excellence*, as their own, the business of conducting the Government of the country, gives us an object lesson not without value in the capacity of any one section of the people to manage the affairs of all. The last day's "business" in the House of Commons before the short Easter recess was a shining example of how not to do things; time, money, talk, and opportunity deliberately wasted, and the national assembly's position turned into ridicule by the silly "blocking" procedure which should have been abolished half a century ago. Less talk about women's deficiencies, more attention paid to those of men, and a general

resolution to mind their own business and to leave women the same freedom, would infinitely become the "sterner" sex and conduce to the greater welfare of the race.
C. NINA BOYLE.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

Head of International Department: MRS. HARVEY,
4, Cleveland-gardens, Ealing, London, W.
The Chicago Elections.

Further particulars are to hand (says *The Star*) of the effect of the first appearance of women as candidates and voters for aldermanships in Chicago and various official positions in the State of which Chicago is the capital. In the inner ring of Chicago City the women candidates were all defeated; and it is stated that the woman's franchise enabled white slave traffickers to call up fallen women to maintain the old régime.

In the innermost of the inner wards, Miss Marion Drake (Progressive) put up a good fight against "Bath House John" Coughlin, the notorious machine leader and "boss" of the disreputable "Red Light" district. Miss Drake polled double the number of votes of Coughlin's male opponent two years ago. She reduced that notorious leader's normal majority by about 600, but still the "machine" automatically re-elected "Bath House John" by a majority of over 4,000.

Outside of Chicago City, about 70 per cent. of the women voters polled against the saloons and concomitant evils. They gained notable successes, and while the temperance party easily held their own in all "dry" (prohibitionist) districts, many "wet" districts were captured, and some 11,000 saloons will be closed in different parts of the State. Several scores of women tax collectors, school officials, &c., were elected for the first time.

No Women to Vote in France—Yet.

The Court of Cassation, the highest tribunal in France, decided on April 7, on the application of a Suffragist, that women are not allowed to vote in elections, having neither political rights, political responsibilities, nor political privileges.

A French Pioneer: Mme. Anclert.

The death is reported on April 10 of Mme. Hubertine Anclert, one of the first Frenchwomen to make a public demand for the enfranchisement of her sex. As far back as 1876 she founded the society called "Le Droit des Femmes," with the help of which she carried on an active feminist campaign. She addressed a petition to the Chamber of Deputies asking for the right to vote for women, and made the experiment, which was tried recently by some ladies with a slight measure of success, of trying to get her name inscribed on the electoral register. She was sixty-three years old.

The Value of Co-operation.

The Jewish Chronicle calls attention to the valuable work of the Union of Jewish Women, and the debt of the community for such service. It adds: "The tendency is now apparently towards co-operation with other bodies concerned with the welfare of women and children, and a conference is to be called upon this point. The idea of co-operation is taking international shape, and we notice with interest that a conference of Jewish women, at which the Union will be represented, will be held at the time when the International Council of Women meets in Rome. The Jewish gathering will consider matters affecting the interests of Jewish womanhood from the international point of view. There is no question but that a broadening of ideals will come from such taking together of counsel."

The Usual Beginning—in Greece.

The following extract from a private letter from an Englishman, dated April 3, 1914, Yanina, Epirus, shows that the usual scoffing attitude prevails towards Woman Suffrage; it has to be lived through in most countries, then it is taken seriously:—

"Yanina, under the Greeks, is becoming a common-place town—picture postcards, gramophones, ladies in Paris hats—and you can go out after dark with security. I should not be surprised if they were to start a Woman's Movement. Talking of that I was dining one night with M. Zographos at Argyrocaastro, a town in Epirus forty-seven miles north-west of Yanina, and asked Karapanos, who is an Oxford man, if they had any Suffragettes in Greece. He replied, 'Not yet.' The Archbishop of Paramythia, a town in Epirus, thirty miles south-west Yanina, who sat between us, does not understand English, but he caught 'Suffragettes,' and laughed heartily. They have arrived at the stage of regarding it as a joke. We don't take that view. Two English women doctors, who are Suffragists, are doing hospital work here."

Value of Women's Votes.

From the provisions of the new Insurance Bill for Norway it is possible to see one effect of women's suffrage in the safeguarding of women's special interests. says *The Daily Citizen's* Christiania correspondent on April 9.

Maternity benefit is to be given for two weeks before and six weeks after the birth of the child of an insured person. The amount of the benefit varies with the class in which the insured person is entered, but for a woman who supports herself it is to be never less than £2 10s., and for a woman whose husband is the insured person it is to be not less than £2. Free medical attendance is also provided.

A PLACE CALLED "HOLLOWAY."

Whilst once addressing a crowd I remarked that I had been in prison. Then you must have done something bad was the retort that instantly came from a man who was standing by listening. My explanation of the reasons for my imprisonments was received with astonishment. Do they put you in prison for that, they asked? This time certainly there did not seem much "badness" in the reason of the arrest, which was caused by what the police call obstruction, and what the law describes as the prevention of the police in the performance of their duty. It was quite the other way about, if the truth had been faced, for we stood in front of the offices of the Director of Public Prosecutions to draw attention to the fact that two members of the police force had neglected to do their duty. Half-an-hour's standing on the pavement and distributing leaflets describing our protest was all that was necessary to win entrance to a place called Holloway, some time a prison only, but now also a halting place where Suffragettes go and stay on their journey to the promised land of the Vote. It is Government ground, and imprisonment forms an effective way of bringing the injustices heaped upon women to the notice of the Government and of the public. That is why we go to prison and, as one step that is taken with a right motive often leads to the finding out of many false steps, so have our steps through the prison gates made it possible that the whole vicious system as it now exists shall be exposed, and a better system inaugurated, which may be the means of reforming instead of still further deforming those who are as yet undeveloped and ignorant.

On entering, there were no degrading processes to go through; I gave up my money in order that it might be safely stored, but refused to part with anything else, and no compulsion was used.

I suffered, however, the indignity of being asked to have my finger-prints taken. This matter has already been dealt with in our paper, and will not be allowed to rest until this innovation is stopped. It appears that the prison authorities have no control over this, but that it is instituted by the police authorities, and with them it must be fought out.

I was reading in a reclining position on my bed when the cell door was noisily opened and four wardresses and a doctor appeared. I did not move, but looked at them with apparent astonishment. The strongest wardresses had evidently been chosen, which proves that they intended to use physical force. One of them seized my wrist, another moved my bed so as to get on the other side of me. The one who had hold of my wrist said, "I suppose you know what we are going to do!" "Yes," I said, "but I am not going to fight I want to argue," and looking at the man who was at the door of my cell I added, "is that the doctor?" Whereupon he came forward, and holding up my hands I said, "do those look like criminal hands?" He muttered something about it being the custom, but he could not say my hands were criminal ones. "Anyhow," I said, "you shall not take my finger-prints—I am petitioning against it." He gave in, and ordered the wardresses to withdraw. I felt I had gained a victory. They did not come again and I yet await an answer to my petition.

There is not nearly so much red tape in Holloway since the installation of the present matron. I should say she has much more control over the prisoners than one would have who asserted authority just for the sake of showing one's own power. The wardresses were as obliging and kind as their official position would allow them to be, and I particularly noticed that they treated the prisoners with humanity and forbearance. There may, of course, be exceptions, but I did not come across them. They are the more to be congratulated on this because their duties are so very onerous. Being on duty, as they are, for fourteen hours a day in dreary surroundings, is not conducive to good temper; they, too, are prisoners—when they awaken they will free themselves from their bonds. The best paid posts in the prison

are, of course, usurped by men—those of Governor, Deputy-Governor, Chaplain and Doctors; even the organist is a man. This in a woman's prison.

In chapel one has time to examine the faces of the girls and women who, for various reasons, have found their way into prison. It would a tale unfold if all the motives and the deeds of those hundreds of human beings could be written down. In the division of the chapel where we sat, faces appeared and disappeared, for some of them were prisoners on remand. One girl, whose face and figure would have graced any drawing-room, looked around her with evident interest; she showed not the least trace of any distress or shame. What crime had she committed, we wondered, and wonder was often the most predominant feeling with us when it did not give place to the pity we all felt. A warden told me that the Mental Deficiency Act will make the work in Holloway much easier, as many of the prisoners are mentally deficient, and up to the present they have been treated as ordinary criminals.

The only free part of the community are the pigeons; they come to the bars of the cell windows and feed from the hands of the prisoners. When they are fed they can fly away into the fresh air and enjoy the sunlight and the freedom. Only the pale-faced women remain behind the bars that our so-called civilisation has drawn across the windows of their lives. It is our work to remove those bars, and let those behind them learn to use the freedom which is the birth-right of every living thing. To us prison is not prison, but the gateway to liberty, without which life is valueless, it is the doorway to that great palace where justice shall be enshrined, not in monuments and on walls, but in the hearts and minds of its inmates—that palace which will be truly the palace of the king, because in it will live men and women who have shaken off the shackles of

petty tyranny and despotism, and who have willingly bound themselves with the only chains which allow of true freedom—the chains of loving service to humanity.
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Amount previously acknowledged				855	11	1
<i>Special Levy for General Election—</i>						
Miss Bunten, per Glasgow Branch	5	0	0			
Mrs. J. B. Wilson, per Glasgow Branch	10	0				
Clapham Branch	10	0				
Harrow Branch	9	4				
Mid-London Branch	1	7	0			
Northern Heights Branch	1	0	0			
Waterloo Branch	1	2	0			
				9	18	10
<i>Organiser's Fund—</i>						
Mrs. Tudor	1	0	0			
Miss N. Tennant, per Edinburgh Branch	4	0				
				1	4	0
<i>Political and Militant Fund—</i>						
Glasgow Branch	5	0	0			
Mrs. Douglas-Hamilton	100	0	0			
Mrs. Despard	53	3	0			
Anonymous Friend	50	0	0			
Mrs. Kate Thomson	50	0	0			
W. R. Snow, Esq.	20	0	0			
O. N. E. Day	12	0	0			
Mrs. Julia Wood	10	0	0			
Miss H. Fryer	7	7	0			
Miss Eunice Murray	6	0	0			
Mrs. Jason Kerr	2	0	0			
Mrs. Gilchrist Thompson	1	10	0			
Mrs. Parkyn	1	1	0			
Mrs. Saul Solomon	1	1	0			
Miss Gore Browne	1	0	0			
Mrs. Jacobs-Larkcom	1	0	0			
Miss B. Kent	1	0	0			
Miss E. F. Staley	1	0	0			
Miss H. Symons	1	0	0			
"Tax Resistance"	1	0	0			
Mrs. Vatcher	1	0	0			
Mrs. Fisher, per	12	0				
Miss Le Croisette, per Hackney Branch	10	0				
Miss A. C. Bell	10	0				
Miss M. Campbell	10	0				
Mrs. Sewell (Homerton Campaign)	10	0				
Miss K. M. Ward	10	0				
Mrs. Winterne	5	6				
Miss Eamonsen	2	6				
Madame Halme Putz	2	6				
G. F. Sitzer, Esq.	2	6				
Miss M. M. Wilson	2	6				
Fraulein Anna Pagnstoecker	2	6				
"An Anti"	1	6				
"X"	1	6				
Miss Ivy Day	1	0				
Mrs. Hughes	1	0				
Mrs. Tritton	1	0				
Miss Twoart	1	0				
Mrs. Wolein	1	0				
Refreshments, per Mrs. Fisher	2	6	5			
Tickets	6	0				
Collections	12	3	4			
Office Sales	1	2	6			
<i>Branches—</i>						
Cheltenham	2	7	0			
<i>Capitation Fees—</i>						
Bournemouth	6	0				
Clapham	6	0				
				£1,216	13	2

Cheques to be made payable to the Women's Freedom League, and crossed London and South-Western Bank, Ltd.
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. Treasurer.

SAVE YOUR SILVER PAPER.

Few people realise that silver paper can be turned to useful account in raising funds. A large firm in London collected enough in twelve months to support a cot for a year in one of the large children's hospitals. This means at least £20 to £25. Why should we not equal or exceed this sum? Let every Branch keep a box for the collection of the paper, and every member help.

I shall be glad to receive quarterly all that is collected and will publish in THE VOTE the sum realised by its sale, with a list of the Branches which have contributed. The money will be sent to Headquarters. During Easter many members and friends have no doubt purchased and received Easter eggs and chocolates wrapped in silver paper. I trust this appeal may meet their eyes. Children will gladly collect, and our men friends can also help by saving the silver paper in which their cigarettes are often wrapped. It is better when the silver paper is kept flat and smooth, but all is useful.

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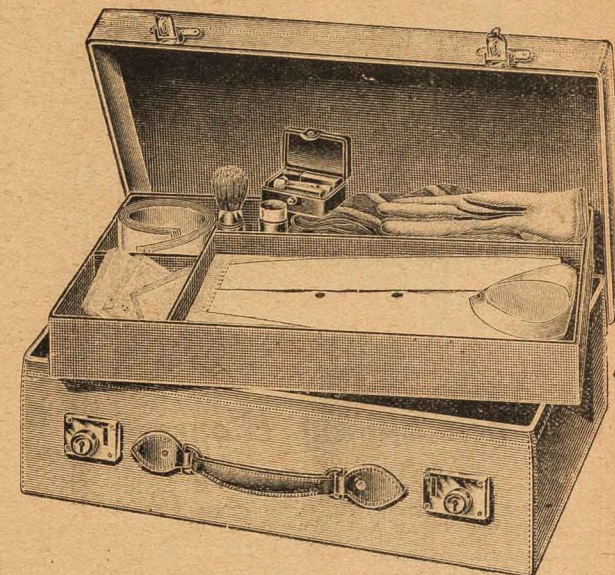
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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

Women's Victory at Nuneaton.

Nuneaton factory girls have won a notable victory. One hundred and fifty of them who have been on strike resumed work recently at Messrs. Hart and Levy's tailoring factory, having received definite assurance from Sir Maurice Levy that their grievances will be redressed within a fortnight, their Union fully recognised, and that no one shall be victimised. Practically all the girls employed at the Wimbledon works have joined the Clothiers' Union, and the moral effect upon the other women workers at Nuneaton has already been very great, and they are flocking to join various Trade Unions.

A Woman Aeroplane Maker.

The Government, writes a contributor to *Vanity Fair*, has handed over to a firm controlled by a woman, Mrs. Maurice Hewlett, the building of machines on whose stability depends the lives of the men of the Army Flying Corps. Mrs. Hewlett has just delivered two aeroplanes to the War Office and a short time ago she built two for the Admiralty. Her work, the Admiralty reports, is far superior to that done elsewhere. Mrs. Hewlett uses a special kind of strong, light steel, of which her firm alone know the secret, and aeroplanes built by her are found to fly at the first trial. They do not, as is usually the case, require to be sent back for alterations. One of the aeroplanes was actually in position as one of the special exhibits of "Woman's Kingdom" at Olympia, but had to be removed at the last moment owing to an agreement with the Aero Club with regard to exhibitions.

A Woman Engineer.

A woman engineer, Miss C. Griff, has escaped any contretemps of this kind and exhibits a model steam-engine, the parts of which were turned by her on her own lathe. She may be regarded as a pioneer in this branch of industry. She holds certificates for mechanical, electrical, and automobile engineering, and specialises in work connected with oil and gas engines, agricultural machinery for women farmers, and electric light installations. There is no bar to women entering the profession of engineering. The degree of B.Sc. (engineering) is open to them. It is not an overcrowded profession. Miss Griff says that her clients are not necessarily women; her first was a man.

Equal Pay for Equal Work as Doctors.

Fifty years ago there was not one woman doctor in the United Kingdom. To-day more than 700 women are qualified medical practitioners, and the total will soon reach four figures. It is one of the few professions in which women can earn as much as men. There is a great and increasing demand among women for the

woman doctor. Facilities for training are very good nowadays, but the difficulty is that, once qualified, women get no fair opportunity of holding the higher positions among hospitals.

There is a wide field open to women doctors among the poor of their own sex. Established less than a year ago in two humble shops in Newington Causeway, the South London Hospital for Women is to-day known throughout the Home Counties, and its out-patients come from Essex, Hertford, Kent and Surrey, Woolwich and Battersea, Hackney and Greenwich, Deptford and Kensington. The only man connected with the establishment is the porter. Doctors, dressers, dispensers and servants are all women, and so popular have they become that dozens of feminine sufferers travel miles to see them, although the local man-conducted dispensary may be only two minutes' walk.—*Daily Graphic*.

Women in Banks.

The employment of women in banks was a topic of discussion at a recent conference in New York. The most accessible post was said to be that of a shorthand secretary, whose salary may vary, according to her responsibility, from £100 to £1,000 a year. Some banking houses have splendidly equipped financial libraries, the care of which takes up all the time of a trained librarian and a staff of assistants, some of whom may be women. Akin to the duties of a librarian are those of a person charged with the "filing" of various documents, including correspondence. Women can sometimes also get appointments as statisticians and as advertisement writers. Only in rare instances is a woman promoted to the position of bank manager.

THE I.L.P. CONFERENCE AT BRADFORD.

Working in Bradford before and during Easter Miss Read has found considerable interest evoked in the Women's Freedom League policy and work. Literature has been distributed, THE VOTE sold in the streets and at all the meetings of the Coming-of-Age Conference of the Independent Labour Party. Representatives from every part of the country have attended the Conference, and much stir has been made in the progressive city, which can boast of its municipal milk dep t, its open-air school, and school clinic. The speakers have been subjected to considerable interruption by advocates of Woman Suffrage; one of the men said: "Shame on you, the official Labour Party, for associating yourselves with a Government that tortures women!"

"Keep the flag flying!" "Bound to come soon!" were some of the remarks with which Miss Read was greeted when in evidence amongst the crowd at the demonstration on Sunday afternoon, attended by thousands of people.

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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.—Clapham.

A very successful open-air meeting was held last week at the corner of St. Luke's-road. The speakers were Mrs. Wall Cousins and Miss MacLennan, and the chairman Miss F. A. Underwood. Will members rally round us again next Monday evening at eight o'clock? The hon. treasurer would also be glad if those who have not already paid their subscriptions will bring them to the Branch meeting, to be held at 1, Imperial-mansions, Bromells-road, Tuesday, April 21, at 7.30. At the last Branch meeting it was decided to hold a public indoor meeting in May.

East London.

A public meeting was held in the Committee-room of Stratford Town Hall on April 2. Miss Adams, from the chair, outlined the general policy of the League. Miss Eunice Murray, in a vigorous and humorous speech, showed the absurdity of men trying to understand the difficulties of working women, and with relapses into racist Scottish, recounted the spread of Suffrage ideas into the Western Isles. Mrs. Mustard claimed for women full citizenship in order to ensure fuller protection of women and children and a sounder economic position.

PROVINCES.—Ipswich.

At our meeting on April 2 our delegate gave her account of the Conference, which was received with much interest. We had hoped to have the pleasure of seeing Miss Andrews, but as she was receiving his Majesty's hospitality at one of his well-known castles the pleasure had to be deferred. Our grateful thanks are due to our kind member, Mrs. Miland, who organised a draw for a doll which she had dressed most beautifully. She also brought four home-made cakes, which were soon purchased. We should be very glad of some jams, pickles or marmalade for the Shop. Our Jumble Sale is fixed for May 1, at Pottery-street schoolroom. Please collect all you can and send them to 22, Queen-street, marked "Jumble Sale," not later than April 28, and not before April 25. It is hoped members will make a special effort to be present at our next meeting on April 23, when Miss Harrison will give a paper on "Prison Reform."

Middlesbrough.

At our "At Home" at Hinton's Café on March 30, Miss Winifred Jones presided, and Mr. Charles Coates spoke on the housing question.



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than to find her new frock creased and crumpled the first time she wears it. Yet this is what happens with all ordinary linen fabrics—they begin to look untidy from the moment you first sit down.

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Miss Jones said that housing conditions in some parts of Middlesbrough were most miserable and dehumanising. Women were the principal victims, and it was right and just that they should co-operate with men in a question so vitally important to them.

Mr. Coates said he was unable to understand the absence of civic pride in the matter of housing; there was a frightfully low conception of the necessities in regard to domestic life.

An interesting feature of the "At Home" was the number of men present, three of whom joined the League as associates in response to an appeal made by the hon. secretary. Three new members were also enrolled. Will members please get their goods together for the Jumble Sale on May 23, and also do their utmost to sell tickets for the plays, as the Branch is in urgent need of funds?

A business meeting was held on April 6, in Hinton's Café, at which Mrs. Schofield Coates presided, and the delegates reported on the decisions of Conference. Arrangements for the Jumble Sale to be held on May 23 were discussed. It was decided to separate the sales of THE VOTE and literature; Miss Hayton will retain THE VOTE sales, and Miss Marjorie Broadbridge has undertaken the duties of literature secretary. Miss Dorothy Nicholson was appointed to collect for the levy for the General Election Fund, in the place of Mrs. Walker.

Portsmouth and Gosport.

Mrs. Speck gave a most interesting report of the Conference at our meeting on April 7. Her enthusiasm was infectious, and as a result plans were made to begin working for Mrs. Despard's Birthday Fund immediately after the Easter holidays. Miss Mottershall and Mrs. Maddergh have promised material to commence a fortnightly work party. Our next Branch meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, at the Castle Tea Rooms, Gr. Southsea-street, at 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Colley-priest will open a discussion (subject to be announced later) and friends may be invited.

Winchester.

A drawing-room meeting was held on March 31, at 14, Saxon-road. Mrs. Singleton took the chair. Mrs. Leigh Rothwell gave a most interesting address on "Women and the Social Evil." She drew particular attention to the double standard of morality now existing and to the danger to young children; she made a special appeal to the mothers to come out and help the Cause of Woman Suffrage.

SCOTLAND.—Danfermline.

On April 2, Dr. Aimée Gibbs addressed a meeting in St. Margaret's Lecture Hall on "Ideal Womanhood." At some length, Dr. Gibbs traced the growth of the Suffrage Movement and pointed out that the clamour for the franchise was in order that the women of the country might be in position to bring the necessary pressure to bear in the proper quarters for the removal of the grievances and disabilities under which they live, and urged that one of the main duties of womanhood is service—service to the home and to the State. Miss A. B. Jack also addressed the meeting and made a strong appeal for members and associates. On the motion of Mrs. Watt, Dr. Gibbs was thanked for her address, and the chairman, Mr. John Beck, was thanked on the motion of Miss Jack.

PLEASE MENTION "THE VOTE" WHEN ORDERING GOODS.

Glasgow.—Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road

At the meeting of the council on April 2 it was decided to hold the sale of work on December 11 and 12. Every member must do her part to make this sale a success. It was also decided to carry on a special campaign in Bridgeton (Mr. MacCallum Scott's constituency) in May, and to open a shop there for that month if possible. Will any who can help please let the secretary know as soon as possible? The Branch meeting was held on the same evening, when an interesting address on Free Trade was given by Mr. Graham Cassels; members took part in the discussion which followed. We regret that Mrs. Despard's meeting on April 14 has had to be postponed.

Leith.

Organising in Leith during the past week, Miss Ada Broughton visited several factories, where excellent dinner-hour meetings were held. At the Ropery Works, where over 300 girls were present, and at Chalmers' Rag Stores the meetings were particularly successful. The women and girl workers evinced keen interest and expressed the wish that the Suffragettes would visit them again and further explain votes for women. The manager at Chalmers' Stores most kindly permitted Miss Broughton to hold the meeting on the premises, and the girls invited her to do so in the lunch-room, where over 200 women and girls gave her a sympathetic hearing, following her address with the keenest attention. On Tuesday night, at the corner of Dalmeny-street, an excellent open-air meeting was held, when Miss Ada Broughton and Miss Alexia B. Jack spoke to a very interested audience. During the week new members have been enrolled, and the organisers expect to form a Branch of the W.F.L. in Leith as a result of the work already done in the district.

On April 6, Miss Broughton visited a paper bag factory and was given an opportunity to address the girl workers during their meal hour. The girls crowded into the dining hall to hear about votes for women and women's work and wages. They listened with close attention and asked for another meeting as soon as possible. On the following evening a very successful social gathering took place in Wilson's Hall, Hope-street. Among the audience were many factory girls wearing their shawls over their heads. Mrs. Edgar presided; Miss Alexia B. Jack and Miss Helen McLachlan gave very interesting addresses. During the evening tea and refreshments were served.

Paisley.

The usual Branch meeting was held on April 2. Many thanks to members who helped with the tea. Miss Isa Bell recited and Mr. McBurnie and Mr. John Martin gave short addresses. At the next meeting Mr. James Ingram will give a paper on the "Suffrage Movement." It was decided to hold open-air meetings during the summer. Will members please come to next meeting, to be held on Thursday, April 30, in the same room of Central Halls, as it will probably be the last one indoors for the present. Friends invited.

WALES.—Swansea.

On March 27 we had a very successful Jumble Sale in the Ragged School Buildings. There was a good attendance of helpers, and the financial result was satisfactory. On April 1, in the Unitarian Schoolroom, Miss Clara Codd, of Adyar, India, gave a very charming address on "The Women's Movement as a Sign of the Times." Public interest of a practical kind in the Suffrage Movement is steadily growing in Swansea. Our members are helping in the inaugural stages of establishing a Branch of the Free Church League for Women's Suffrage. The Rev. Fleming Williams was warmly welcomed and gave helpful and stimulating speeches at the meetings on April 7.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Women's Tax Resistance League.

On March 31 old silver was sold at the house of Miss Wratislaw, Bath, because of her refusal to pay Inhabited House Duty. The articles were sold last year under similar circumstances. Prior to the sale there was a procession, and immediately afterwards a protest meeting, when Mrs. Kineton Parkes moved the following resolution:—"That this meeting protests against the seizure and sale of Miss Wratislaw's goods, and considers that women are justified in refusing to pay the Imperial taxes until they have the same control over national expenditure as male tax-payers possess." A successful drawing-room meeting was held the next afternoon which aroused considerable interest. New members were enrolled.

On April 3 Romford was shaken out of its sleepy calm by the tax-resistance sale of goods belonging to Mrs. Colquhoun, of Gidea Park, and Mrs. Bacon, of Hornchurch. A big crowd collected for the protest meeting and listened attentively while Mrs. Kineton Parkes, of the Women's Tax Resistance League, and Miss C. Nina Boyle, of the Women's Freedom League, explained the reason for the refusal to pay King's taxes, and answered the questions which were put after the speeches were over. The usual resolution was passed.

MEDICAL WOMEN REFUSE TO PAY UNJUST TAXES.—On April 1, a gold watch and chain were sold under distraint for King's taxes at Messrs. Hawkings' Auction Rooms, Lisson-grove, the property of Drs. Frances Ede and Amy Sheppard, practising at Upper Berkeley-street. A procession with banners marched from Marble Arch to the Auction Rooms, via Edgware-road. As soon as Lot 1 was announced, Dr. Ede protested against the sale, and her brief speech was listened to with grave attention. The watch and chain were knocked down at 28 18s. 6d. After three cheers had been given to the tax resisters, the procession continued to Marylebone Baths, where an open-air meeting was held. Dr. Ede presided; the speakers were Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and Mrs. Kineton Parkes. At the close of the meeting, the following resolution was carried:—"That this meeting protests against the seizure and sale of goods belonging to Drs. Ede and Sheppard, and is of opinion that women tax-payers are justified in refusing to pay all Imperial taxes till they have the same control over national expenditure as male tax-payers possess."

Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage.

An excellent record of work is shown in the annual report for 1913-1914 just issued by the League. A proposal for joint action with the Northern Men's Federation in demanding a Government measure for Woman Suffrage under threat of opposition to every Government candidate put forward, was supported by a very large majority of the League. The Prime Minister, on his visit to Manchester in



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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.
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DARE TO BE FREE.

Sun., April 19.—REGENT'S PARK, NOON.
Speakers: Miss Underwood and Mrs. Hyde.
Mon., April 20.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi. Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. *Subject:* "The Awakening of Women; British Dominions Overseas." *Opener:* Miss H. Newcomb. Admission free. Discussion and questions invited. CLAPHAM, St. Luke's-road, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m.
Tues., April 21.—CLAPHAM, 1, Imperial-mansions, Bromells-road, Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
Wed., April 22.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell, "Chivalry and the Wage-Earning Woman: Fact and Fiction," and Miss Nina Boyle. *Chair:* Mrs. Tanner. Admission free.
Fri., April 24.—CROYDON, 32A, The Arcade, High-street, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. *Speaker:* Mrs. Ackroyd. *Chair:* Miss Bennett. Caxton Hall. Reception to Released Prisoners, 8 p.m. *Speakers:* Miss Boyle and released prisoners.
Sat., April 25.—TOTTENHAM, The Institute, Jumble Sale, 3 p.m.
Sun., April 26.—REGENT'S PARK, NOON. Mr. Kennedy.
Mon., April 27.—CLAPHAM, St. Luke's-road, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner.
Wed., April 29.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. The Rev. C. Baumgarten, "Justice and the Franchise from the Church Point of View," and others. KENSINGTON TOWN HALL, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. *Speakers:* Miss Boyle and Miss Cicely Hamilton. *Chair:* Mrs. Mustard.
Mon., May 4.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Ashdown on "Madame Curie." Admission free.
Wed., May 6.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Mr. Lansbury and others. Admission free.
Thurs., May 7.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m.
Fri., May 8.—CROYDON, 32A, The Arcade, High-street, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. *Speaker:* Mrs. E. M. Moore.
Wed., May 13.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30. Mr. Laurence Housman and others. Admission free.
Fri., May 15.—AT HOME, Lady Barclay, 60, Nevern-square, Earl's Court. Mrs. Despard and Mr. Laurence Housman. 4.30 p.m.
Mon., May 18.—LOWER HALL, High-street, Clapham, Public Meeting, 8 p.m.
PROVINCES.
Mon., April 20.—Hexham, Congregational Schoolroom. Miss Hare, "The Life of Josephine Butler." Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café. Miss A. Mahony. *Subject:* "Why Women Teachers Demand the Franchise."
Tues., April 21.—Portsmouth and Gosport, Castle Tea Rooms, Branch Meeting, 7.30 p.m. *Speaker:* Mrs. Colleypriest.
Thurs., April 23.—Ipswich, Suffrage Shop. Miss Harrison on "Prison Reform." Winchester, Sale of Work and Jumble Sale at The Lodge, Bereweke-road (by permission of Mrs. Carey), 3-6 p.m.
Sat., April 25.—Chester, The People's Hall, Jumble Sale, 3 p.m. Admission 2d.
Mon., April 27.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, Business Meeting, April 29 and 30.—Middlesbrough, Victoria Hall, 7.45 p.m. Two Plays by Winifred M. Jones, *Noblesse Oblige* and *William the Conqueror*. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.
Mon., May 4.—Middlesbrough, President's Birthday Party.
Mon., May 11.—Middlesbrough. *Speaker:* Miss L. Mahony. *Speaker:* "George Eliot's Women."
SCOTLAND.
Fri., April 17.—Rothsay, Good Templars' Hall, 8 p.m. *Chair:* Rev. J. M. Dickie, B.D.
Thurs., April 30.—Paisley, Branch Meeting in room of Central Halls (1 up). Paper by Mr. James Ingram.

Other Societies.—Continued.

December last, refused to receive a deputation of the League including representative University, professional and business men. The League, through a member of its executive, compelled a declaration from Sir John Simon, at a meeting in Manchester, that he would use his influence in every way to secure a measure of enfranchisement for women in the most effective way at the earliest possible moment, but he refused to answer the "too hypothetical" question as to whether he would take office under a Liberal Government, if returned at the next General Election, unless a Government Bill were forthcoming. The president of the League is Mr. A. M. Langdon, K.C., and the hon. secretary, Mr. J. Beuland, 52, Princess-road, Urmston. The able support of the League is warmly welcomed by women in the fight for justice.

WOMAN MASTER OF THE FOXHOUNDS.

Another triumph for woman, says *The Standard*, has to be registered in the appointment of Mrs. Mary Inge, of Thorpe Hall, Thorpe (Staffordshire), as "master" of the Atherstone Foxhounds. She is the first woman to hold the position in the famous Warwickshire hunt. Her husband was "master" from 1891-5, and was killed. Her father was "master" for twenty-one years, and her uncle, Mr. C. R. Colville, for five seasons; while her maternal grandfather, Captain J. Russell, was master of the Warwickshire Hounds in the year of the first Reform Bill (1832).

Women masters now number five, the other four being:—Miss E. Somerville, West Carbery; Lady Portal, The Vine; Mrs. T. H. Hughes, Neuaddfawr; Mrs. S. J. B. Jenkins, Llanharren.

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SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES MEETINGS.

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