

"Votes for Women," September 24, 1909.

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# VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

VOL. II., No. 81.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1909.

Price 1d. Weekly. (Post Free.)

## THE BRITISH CZAR.



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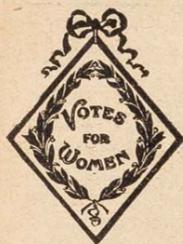
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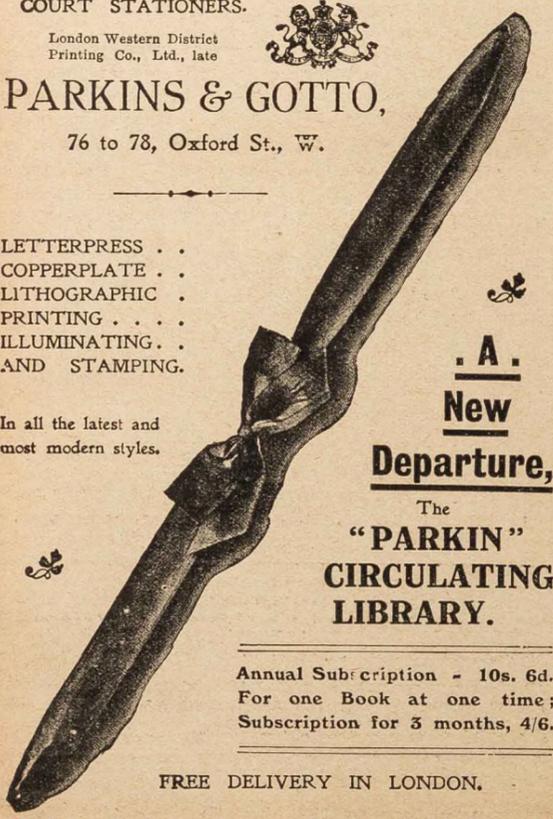


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To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

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**THE OUTLOOK.**

That the Prime Minister of England in visiting Birmingham in order to make a political speech should have found it necessary to surround himself with precautions literally resembling those of the Czar of Russia would have been absolutely incredible a few short months ago.

At Birmingham.

Starting from Euston, where he was guarded so assiduously by the police that his own sister was for a long time excluded from the platform, Mr. Asquith arrived in Birmingham to find the city in a state of siege. Barricades 9 ft. high were along the station platform; similar barricades were across all the leading thoroughfares in the neighbourhood of Bingley Hall. The whole police force of the city were in requisition, and for hours mounted men and constables on foot grappled with the vast crowds which gathered about the scene. Nor did Mr. Asquith refuse to avail himself of underground passages and subways, of luggage lift entrances and other expedients, in order to reach his destination, and on the only occasion when he emerged above ground in the open his motor proceeded at a walking pace, preceded, followed, and surrounded by a guard of mounted police. To such a strait was the British Prime Minister reduced because the women of the country refused to accept "no" as an answer to their demand for entrance to the hall in which he was speaking, and the right to cross-question him upon his refusal to treat women as citizens of the country.

What the Women Did.

Though the women came in for some very rough handling—Miss Marsh and Mrs. Leigh being drenched to the skin,

and Miss Marsh having her head badly cut—they determined not to go one step further than was absolutely necessary in order to make their protest effective. Women have, in fact, entered upon the first stages of a definite revolution, but without the recklessness which characterised the action of men in similar circumstances in days gone by.

A Liberal View of the Meeting.

The value of women in the eyes of the Liberal party is clearly shown by the remarks of Sir Henry Norman on the result of the meeting, in the course of which he said:—

The meeting was particularly interesting . . . because it shows that with proper organisation it is easy to have present at a meeting all the ladies who have a real claim to be there without having the slightest interruption or inconvenience.

While a meeting was being held to protest against the exclusion of women, there were, I think, over two hundred on the Prime Minister's platform—a fact, I may add, that he did not realise until he was in the train going home, when he learnt of it both with surprise and gratification.

Thus, while there are as many women to be taxed as men, some 200 women as compared with 10,000 men are all that had any claim to be present!

Police Court Methods.

We desire to draw attention to the illegality of the treatment of the prisoners at Birmingham on Saturday morning before their trial. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst duly presented themselves at the police-court and asked for permission to see the prisoners before their case came on, at a time when in the theory of the British law they were merely suspected persons and had had no opportunity of consulting their friends as to their defence. This permission was categorically refused. Of the ten prisoners two were sentenced on Saturday to one month each, and the remaining eight were dealt with on Wednesday, Mrs. Leigh and Miss Marsh received three months' hard labour, and the others various sentences. We understand they are all hunger striking in prison.

The Right of Interruption.

Last Monday in the House of Lords a debate took place on the question of the interruption at Conservative meetings by Liberals. The Earl of Malmesbury, referring to the cartoon in VOTES FOR WOMEN, said that he had noticed an imaginary conversation in a Suffragist organ, and he had come to the conclusion that supporters of the Government "would appear to have donned habits woven by more fairy-like hands." In a leading article the Manchester Guardian, though disapproving of howling down speakers, nevertheless argues as follows:—

We do not hold the view that anyone who convenes a public meeting is entitled to express his views at it without the embarrassment of an occasional interjection. It would destroy the value of political meetings as an expression of public opinion and a means of education if the speaker were made immune from all interruption, however brief, relevant, and reasonable, and from all adverse expressions of opinion, however unexceptionable in point of form.

When it is remembered what an outcry was made from the first in the Liberal Press about interruptions made by women at Cabinet Ministers' meetings, and that these interruptions were in the first instance merely of an interjectory character, the value of the moral platitudes with which these same papers continue to rebuke women will be appreciated.

The Constitutional Issue.

Meanwhile the Liberal papers continue to descant upon the constitutional issues which will be involved if the Peers throw out the Budget. The whole question depends, says the Daily News, upon whether the representatives of the people are to control the national finance or not. Our contemporary seems to forget that there are to-day no real representatives of "the people." The House of Commons merely contains the representatives of men, and at the present time women not only have no representatives, but are pro-

hibited from cross-questioning Cabinet Ministers who are taxing them without their consent.

**Official Denials.**

Last week we called attention to the account in the *Daily Mail* of Mr. Asquith's game of golf, to the Premier's official denial stating there was "no foundation for the report," and to the reaffirmation by the *Daily Mail* of the correctness of the report with the sole alteration of the date. Since we went to press the Prime Minister has practically admitted that with this modification the report was correct. This emphasises a fact of which we had long been familiar, that official contradictions have to be read with caution.

**The Educational Campaign.**

Now that the holidays are over the educational side of the work of the W.S.P.U. is being pushed still more vigorously forward. At the first meeting in London of the autumn season the St. James's Hall was packed to overflowing, and one hundred people were turned away. Meanwhile in every part of the country accounts of enthusiastic meetings are reaching us. Everything points to a busy time in the future, and many interesting meetings are shortly to take place. Next Tuesday and Wednesday Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is speaking in Redcar and Middlesbrough respectively, and on Thursday opens the new W.S.P.U. shop at Liverpool. On Saturday, October 2, a special demonstration is being held in the White City, Manchester, in honour of the Lancashire Hunger Strikers. On October 4 Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at the first Monday afternoon At Home after the summer holidays. In London also there is the Albert Hall meeting on October 7, and on October 9 is the great demonstration in Scotland, while on October 11 Mrs. Pankhurst addresses a meeting in the Sun Hall, Liverpool.

**Penalisation of Marriage.**

In the discussion on the Budget on Monday last in the House of Commons, Mr. Joynton Hicks called attention to a point which we have dealt with previously in these columns. By the clause in the Budget as it stands to-day, for the purposes of the super-tax the incomes of husband and wife are aggregated together; thus super-tax is to be charged upon the separate income of the wife, even though that be only one or two hundred a year, provided that the incomes of husband and wife amount to over £5,000 a year. The result will be equally unjust whether the super-tax is levied on the husband, who has no control whatever over his wife's separate estate, or upon the wife, who has no right to touch a penny of her husband's money. The net result of the tax is a penalisation of marriage.

**Women Surgeons.**

Following on the recent decision to admit women to the Royal College of Surgeons comes the announcement that for the first time next year the examination for this body will be open to them. It is understood that the Home Secretary will sign the formal documents after the next meeting of the council of the college on October 14 next.

**Contents of this Issue.**

Among the special contents of this issue we would draw the attention of our readers to the leading article by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, in which she discusses the fundamental principles which underlie present militant operations of the Suffragettes; Miss Christabel Pankhurst deals with Mr. Long's recent utterance on the subject; Miss Sylvia Pankhurst brings her History of the Suffrage Movement up to the present date by a summarised concluding article. Our readers will also be glad to learn of the release of the Hunger Strikers in Dundee, and to read the detailed accounts which we give of the Birmingham demonstration.

**The Development of the Paper.**

With the present number is concluded the second volume of VOTES FOR WOMEN. In the supplement which is included with every copy of this issue an account of the history of the paper will be found. Next week we shall have pleasure in presenting to our readers the first issue of the new series, which we trust they will find worthy of the growing importance of the movement. To this number Mrs. Pankhurst will contribute a special article dealing with the militant methods of to-day.

**THE SIGNS OF THE TIMES.**

There are signs that the new development of the militant policy is already teaching the Press and the politicians that the question of Woman Suffrage cannot any longer be trifled with except with danger to the best interests of the community. First we have the speech of Mr. Walter Long, who, abandoning the ostrich attitude hitherto adopted by our public men, frankly admits the existence of the women's revolution. It is true that he proposes the wrong remedy for the present disorder, and thinks, as so many others have thought, to dissuade us from the use of militant methods by expostulation and denunciation. Such protests are quite futile and will not deflect us from our course by one hair's breadth. The only thing—we cannot too often repeat it—that will bring this warfare to an end is the concession of the Parliamentary vote to duly qualified women.

Nevertheless, Mr. Long's utterance has given us great satisfaction, because it is prophetic of our early success. One who is a political leader and ex-Minister sees, and draws the attention of the country to the fact, that the struggle between Suffragists and the Government has reached a stage which menaces public order and even safety. Being earnestly desirous of removing this evil, he begins by calling upon the women to give up the fight. This attempt at mediation failing, the only other possible course (one which he and every other man of public spirit should gladly take) is to call for the surrender of the Government, who are the beginners of this quarrel.

Another proof that the time is coming when men of all parties will unite in compelling the Government to carry the Women's Enfranchisement Bill is afforded by the leading article on the subject of the women's revolt which appeared in the *Daily News* of September 20. The article in question, in addition to its political significance, has a strong psychological interest, because it illustrates the inconsistency which seems to characterise what may be termed the Liberal temperament. Thus the *Daily News*, though it has, times without number, justified, nay, applauded the resistance made by the Russian, the Turkish, the Persian peoples against political subjection, denounces the milder revolution now being conducted by British women against political subjection of precisely the same kind, and describes that revolution as "a disgraceful development" and "frenzied and dangerous conduct." The message which the *Daily News* sends to tyrants of other lands is that oppression produces revolution, and makes resistance at once the right and the duty of those who suffer from it. But these high principles, this large conception of what is good and what is evil, this broad view of the rules which should guide human conduct, are thrown to the winds when a revolution of women in this country comes under review, and the *Daily News* makes a fierce attack, not upon the Government, whose contemptible and reactionary opposition to women's enfranchisement is the whole cause of the trouble, but upon the women who are struggling for political existence.

"We hope," says the *Daily News*, "that a grave protest will be made from some quarter that will be listened to." Never was there vainer hope than that, for the Suffragette answers to her own conscience alone. Protests are indeed urgently needed, but they should be addressed to the Government, and should be made against the policy which deprives women of citizen rights and drives them to revolution.

Let it be said again, we are glad that our critics are bestirring themselves. As yet they imagine that we may be induced to yield, but when they finally understand that that can never be they will join us in the cry, Give votes to women!

**Christabel Pankhurst.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

Free meetings are held regularly twice a week in London, on Monday afternoons, at 3 o'clock, at the Queen's Hall, Langham Place, and on Thursday evenings, at the St. James's Hall, Great Portland Street, at 8 o'clock. At both meetings all seats are free. The first meeting at the Queen's Hall will be held on Monday, October 4, when the speakers will be Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst. The meetings on Thursday evenings have already recommenced, and at that held on Thursday, September 30, the speakers will be Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Miss Evelyn Sharp. Free meetings—or At Homes—are also held regularly each week throughout the country. Our readers are referred to the column "Programme of Events."

**Meeting in the Royal Albert Hall, Thursday, October 7.**

Attention is specially directed to the great meeting which is being held on Thursday, October 7, at 8 p.m., in the Royal Albert Hall, on which date there will be no At Home in the St. James's Hall. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be in the chair, and Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will also speak. The tickets are now ready, and can be obtained from Miss Cooke, Ticket Secretary, W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.; stalls, 3s.; arena, 2s. 6d.; balcony, 1s.; upper orchestra, 6d.; and boxes at various prices. The 1s. orchestra seats are all sold. All the seats are numbered except the upper orchestra. As the meeting is a women's demonstration, all the seats will be reserved for women only, with the exception of the stalls, boxes, and arena. Will those women (members only) willing to steward at the Albert Hall send in their names to Miss Hambling, 4, Clements Inn, W.C., AT ONCE.

**The Scottish Demonstration.**

Plans are now maturing for the great Scottish demonstration to be held on Saturday, October 9, which will commence with a procession from the Bruntsfield Links at 2.30, and will conclude with a great meeting at the Waverley Market at 4 o'clock, where Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, and others will address the audience. Tickets for the meeting, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 3d., can be obtained from Mrs. Drummond, 63, Princes Street, Edinburgh.

**Meeting at Liverpool.**

The Sun Hall, Liverpool, has been taken for Monday, October 11, and a great meeting, at which Mrs. Pankhurst will speak, has been arranged. The Liverpool Hunger-strikers and prisoners on remand will also be present on the platform. Tickets can be obtained on September 25 at the W.S.P.U. shop, 28, Berry Street, Liverpool, and the names of those wishing to act as stewards should be sent in to Miss Flatman at that address, so that plans may be drawn up.

**"Votes for Women."**

Members are reminded that the first issue of the paper in its new and enlarged form will be published next week, and this gives an opportunity for special efforts towards making it more widely known. It is hoped that members will all do their utmost to extend the circulation by making it known to their friends and also by selling in the streets and elsewhere. Those who are able to take part in the selling in the streets of London should ask for Miss Ainsworth, who is temporarily acting in the place of Miss Mills, and those who can help in this way in different parts of the country should apply to the local organisers.

**White City, Manchester.**

Miss Mary Gawthorpe and Miss Gladice Keevil will publicly welcome the Lancashire Hunger Strikers at a great "Purple, White, and Green" day at White City, Manchester, on Saturday, October 2, the proceedings commencing at 3.30 p.m. Admission to the City is 1s. (which includes admission and free use of all the attractions owned by the White City), and there will be indoor and outdoor meetings, all free. See page 1211.

**The Woman's Press.**

Miss Christabel Pankhurst's leading article last week, "Militant Tactics to Date," has been issued in leaflet form, and may now be obtained from the Woman's Press, price 9d. a hundred, or 6s. a thousand.

**PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.**

Sept. 24	Alloa	Mrs. Drummond, Miss Adela Pankhurst, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	8 p.m.
	Birmingham, Temperance Hall	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Gladice Keevil	7.30 p.m.
	London—Hammersmith, Down's Place	Mrs. Penn Gaskell, Miss Roe	7 p.m.
	Monmouth Road, W., Open-air Meeting	Miss Brackenbury, Miss Corson	11.30 a.m.
	West Kensington Rly. Statn.	Miss Barry, Miss E. Pitfield	7.30 p.m.
	Liverpool, Wellington Column	Miss Flatman	8 p.m.
	Manchester, Onward Buildings, Deansgate	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Beatrice Harraden	8 p.m.
Sat. 25	Amersham	Miss P. Ayton, Miss Jacobs	6 p.m.
	Coventry, Demonstration, Poole Meadow	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss G. Keevil, Dr. H. Jones	
	London—Crouch End, Clock Tower	Miss Peek, Mrs. Williams	7 p.m.
	Richmond, Heron Court	Miss E. East	11.30 a.m.
	Shepherd's Bush, Carxton Rd.	Miss E. Pitfield, Miss Roe	7 p.m.
	West Kensington Rly. Statn.	Miss Elsa Myers, Miss Jarvis	7 p.m.
	Manchester, 164, Oxford Road	"Votes" Corps and Parade	11 a.m., 3 & 6 p.m.
Sun. 26	London—Blackheath	Mrs. McKenzie and others	3 p.m.
	Kew, Bridge Approach	Mrs. C. Fahey	3.30 p.m.
	Putney Heath	Miss G. Brackenbury	3.30 p.m.
	Regent's Park	Miss Douglas Smith	3.15 p.m.
	Streatham Common	Miss Naylor	3 p.m.
Mon. 27	Greenock, Town Hall	Mrs. Drummond, Miss Adela Pankhurst, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	8 p.m.
	Liverpool, Ogden's Factory Gate	Miss Flatman	1 p.m.
	Liverpool, Old Swan		7.30 p.m.
	London—Ravenscourt Avenue, W.	Miss Jacobs, Miss Jarvis	7.30 p.m.
	Walham Green	Mrs. Tanner	7.30 p.m.
	West Kensington Rly. Statn.	Miss C. Coombs, Miss West	7 p.m.
	Manchester, White City Campaign, Open-air Meeting	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
	Newcastle-on-Tyne, Drawing Room Café	Miss Mabel Atkinson	7.30 p.m.
Tue. 28	Birmingham, At Home, Priory Rooms	Miss Gladice Keevil	7.30 p.m.
	Glasgow, At Home, Burgh Hall, Langside	Miss Adela Pankhurst, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	5.5 p.m.
	London—2, Campden Hill Square	Mrs. Cameron Swan, Mrs. Eates	8 p.m.
	Hammersmith, The Grove	Miss E. Pitfield, Miss West	7 p.m.
	Ravenscourt Avenue, W.	Miss Barry, Mrs. Butler	7 p.m.
	Liverpool, Hartley's Factory Gate, Aintree	Miss Flatman	1 p.m.
	Manchester, Parade, 164, Oxford Road		10.30 a.m.
	Manchester, White City Campaign, Open-air Meeting	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
	Paisley, Open-air Meeting	Miss Cameron	8 p.m.
	Redcar, St. George's Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Kathleen Brown	8 p.m.
Wed. 29	Birkenhead, Park Gates	Miss Flatman	7.30 p.m.
	Birmingham, Camp Hill	Miss Dale, Mrs. Kerwood	7 p.m.
	London—Shepherd's Bush, At Home, 2, Findon Road	Mrs. Nourse and others	8 p.m.
	Manchester, White City Campaign, Open-air Meeting	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
	Middlesbrough, Town Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Kathleen Brown	8 p.m.
	Paisley, Town Hall	Miss Adela Pankhurst, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	8 p.m.
Thu. 30	Birmingham, Monument Rd.	Mrs. B. Smith, Miss E. Instone	7 p.m.
	Glasgow, At Home, Burgh Hall, Pollokshields	Miss Adela Pankhurst, Hon. Mrs. Haverfield	3.5 p.m.
	Liverpool, Opening of New Shop, 28, Berry Street	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Flatman	8 p.m.
	London—Crouch End, Hanley Road	Miss Herbert	7 p.m.
	Hammersmith, At Home, Miss Thomas, 100, Shepherd's Bush Road	Miss Jarvis and others	8 p.m.
	St. James's Hall, At Home	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Evelyn Sharp	8 p.m.
	Manchester, Parade, 164, Oxford Road		10.30 a.m.
	Manchester, White City Campaign, Open-air Meeting	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
Oct. 1	Birmingham, Barton Arms, Aston	Miss G. M. Hazel	7 p.m.
Fri. 1	Liverpool, Islington Square	Miss Flatman	8 p.m.
	Manchester, White City Campaign, At Home, Onward Buildings, Deansgate	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	

**IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.**

Sat. 2	Manchester, White City, Great Welcome to Lancashire Hunger Strikers	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Gladice Keevil, and Hunger Strikers	3.30 p.m.
Oct. 4	London—Queen's Hall, At Home	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3 p.m.
Oct. 7	London—Royal Albert Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst	8 p.m.
Oct. 9	Edinburgh, Great Scottish Demonstration, Waverley Market	Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	2.30 p.m.
Oct. 11	Liverpool, Sun Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Chair: Miss Ada Flatman	8 p.m.
Oct. 13	Blackheath Concert Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Lady Constance Lytton, Chair: The Ven. C. E. Escreet, M.A.	8 p.m.
Oct. 21	Launceston, Town Hall	Archdeacon of Lewisham	7.30 p.m.
Oct. 22	Truro, Public Rooms	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Annie Kenney	7.30 p.m.
Oct. 23	Edinburgh, King's Theatre	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Annie Kenney	
Oct. 25	London—Queen's Hall, At Home	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Dr. Cooper	3.5 p.m.
Oct. 27	London—Whitefield's Tabernacle, Tottenham Court Road	Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Chair: Mr. Silvester Horne (For Members of the Mutual Improvement Society only)	

## HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By Sylvia Pankhurst. LVI.—Conclusion.

In the earlier chapters of this history the progress of the Votes for Women movement has been traced from the formation of the earliest woman suffrage societies in 1865 down to the closing months of the year 1907, less than two years ago.

Rapidly as interesting and important events have followed each other since this latter date, they are as yet too freshly impressed upon the memories of most, if not all, the readers of this paper to be chronicled in detail here. But in this concluding article of the series I propose briefly to sketch out the principal happenings that have taken place during this time.

On January 17, 1908, whilst the Cabinet Council were drafting the forthcoming King's Speech at 10, Downing Street, Mrs. Drummond and four other women attempted to burst in upon them in order to urge upon them the immediate need for woman suffrage. These women were all arrested and sent to prison for three weeks.

When Parliament assembled it was found that the King's Speech contained no mention of Votes for Women. Therefore, at the Women's Parliament held on February 11 and 12, it was decided to carry resolutions of protest to the Prime Minister. In attempting to do so, fifty women were arrested, forty-seven of whom were sent to prison for six weeks on refusing to be bound over to keep the peace, and two others for two months.

These women had been dealt with under the Prevention of Crimes Act, but the solicitor for the prosecution threatened that in the case of future Suffragist demonstrations an Act of Charles II., which stated that no more than ten persons might go together to present a petition either to the King or to Parliament, and that any who attempted to do so would render themselves liable to three months' imprisonment, should be put into force.

Having good reason to believe that if they persisted in attempting to present a petition to the Prime Minister they would be arrested whether they went in ones, twos, threes, or infinitely larger numbers, and knowing that prosecution under this Act of Charles II. would mean that instead of being dealt with in the police-court they would be tried by judge and jury, the Suffragettes determined to put the matter to the test.

Therefore, on February 13, the last day of that Women's Parliament, a deputation of thirteen women, headed by Mrs. Pankhurst, marched forth from the Caxton Hall. Though the women complied with every police order except that of desisting from their attempt to reach the House of Commons, Mrs. Pankhurst, Annie Kenney, and eight others were arrested. They were not, however, tried under the Act of Charles II., as had been expected, but hustled off to prison for six weeks on refusing to be bound over to keep the peace, after the usual mockery of a trial in the police-court.

On February 23 the Women's Enfranchisement Bill, a first place for which had been obtained by Mr. Stanger, came up for second reading, and was carried by 271 votes to 92. Unfortunately, Mr. Stanger and his colleagues, instead of insisting that the Bill should be sent to one of the Standing Committees, weakly allowed it to be referred to a Committee of the whole House. This meant that unless the Government would provide further time for its discussion the Bill was blocked, and could go no further.

On March 19 Mrs. Pankhurst and her fellow-prisoners were released a day before the expiry of their sentences, as the Government wished to prevent the demonstration of welcome that had been arranged. Thus she was able to be present at the first Women's Suffrage demonstration ever held in the great Albert Hall, which took place on the same evening. She was then presented with the sum of £7,000 for the funds of the W.S.P.U., £1,000 of which had been collected during Self-Denial Week. The remaining £6,000 was subscribed at the Albert Hall meeting itself. This completed the £20,000 campaign fund, and the effort to raise a fund of £50,000, now nearing completion, was afterwards begun.

In April, 1908, Mr. Asquith became Prime Minister, and on

May 20 a deputation of sixty Liberal M.P.'s waited upon him to press for the granting of Woman Suffrage.

### Mr. Asquith's "Pledge."

In reply Mr. Asquith refused to give facilities for the Women's Enfranchisement Bill. He said that he was not in favour of giving votes to women, but that he objected to plural voting and to the "delays" and "artificialities" of the present system with regard to men's franchise rights. Therefore, barring accidents, he regarded it as a binding obligation upon the Government to bring in a really effective reform of our electoral system. This being so, those who desired Woman's Suffrage could bring in an amendment to the proposed Government Reform Bill. If the amendment were carried by the House of Commons the Government would not oppose it provided the amendment were drafted "on democratic lines," and had behind it "the strong and undoubted support of the women of the country as well as of the present electorate."

This statement of Mr. Asquith's was hailed by Liberals as a great concession, but Mr. Asquith had only promised (with certain reservations) to do what the Conservatives had actually done in 1867 in the case of John Stuart Mill's amendment to their own Reform Bill. The Suffragettes realised that the threat that the amendment would be opposed by the Government if it were not upon "democratic lines" was a very ominous one, as it might be used against any amendment that was not practically certain to be thrown out by the House of Lords. Knowing there are none so blind as those who will not see, they also foresaw the extreme difficulty of forcing unwilling Cabinet Ministers to admit a strong and undoubted demand for Woman's Suffrage on the part of both the women and men of the country. Moreover, the Reform Bill might never be introduced, or might be wrecked from other causes. These doubts were confirmed when on May 27 Mr. Asquith was cross-questioned as to his recent pronouncement by a number of anti-Suffragist M.P.'s. When asked by Mr. Alfred Hutton whether a Woman's Suffrage amendment to the proposed Reform Bill would, if carried, become part of the Government's policy in relation to the franchise, Mr. Asquith simply replied: "My hon. friend has asked me a contingent question with regard to a remote and speculative future."

The W.S.P.U. had already determined to show how great was the demand for Woman's Suffrage in the country by means of a series of great outdoor demonstrations. In addition to gatherings of upwards of 100,000 people held in all the principal provincial centres during the year, a monster franchise demonstration was therefore organised in Hyde Park on June 21. This extraordinary meeting, certainly the largest that has ever been held in the history of the country, far eclipsed the greatest men's franchise demonstration—namely, that in 1867, when 72,000 people assembled in Hyde Park. In describing the women's meeting on June 21 the *Times* correspondent wrote:—"The organisers of the demonstration had counted on an attendance of 250,000. That expectation was certainly fulfilled. Probably it was doubled, and it would be difficult to contradict anyone who asserted confidently that it was trebled. Like the distances and numbers of the stars, the facts were beyond the threshold of perception."

The resolution:—

"That this meeting calls upon the Government to grant votes to women without delay," carried on Women's Sunday, at twenty platforms, was immediately forwarded to the Prime Minister. His reply was brief and curt. He had "nothing to add to the statement made to the deputation of members of Parliament on May 20."

The W.S.P.U. had already summoned a national convention of women for June 30. A huge crowd then assembled in Parliament Square, and twenty-seven women were arrested and sentenced to from one to two months' imprisonment.

Another Women's Parliament was arranged for October 13, but before that day came warrants were out for the arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst, Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Drummond for having published a handbill calling upon the people of London to assemble in Parliament Square and help the women "to rush the House of Commons." The three leaders were therefore unable to be present at the Parliament, but the usual

attempt to carry a resolution to the Prime Minister was made, and twenty-four women were arrested.

Then followed the dramatic trial of the leaders, in which the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Home Secretary were subpoenaed as witnesses for the defence. Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Herbert Gladstone were subjected to a vigorous examination by Christabel Pankhurst, in the course of which the unjust and illogical nature of the Government's coercive treatment of the women was clearly demonstrated. After brilliant and eloquent speeches in their own defence, Mrs. Pankhurst and Mrs. Drummond were sent to prison for three months and Christabel Pankhurst for ten weeks, in default of being bound over to keep the peace.

On February 24, 1909, a Women's Parliament was again held in the Caxton Hall to protest against the omission of Votes for women from the latest King's Speech. The deputation was on this occasion led by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. She and twenty-eight other women were arrested and imprisoned for from one to two months in Holloway Gaol.

On June 29 was held the thirteenth Women's Parliament. The fateful deputation was again led by Mrs. Pankhurst. Every attempt was now made to act according to the law of the land as safeguarded by the Bill of Rights. In the act of Charles II. before mentioned, it had been laid down that no more than twelve persons might together present a petition to Parliament, therefore the deputation was kept within this number. It consisted of but seven women. Nevertheless the entire deputation was arrested at the door of the House of Commons. Other women then came forward, strove to do what the deputation itself had been prevented from doing, and in the result 110 women and several men were taken into custody.

On coming up for trial before Sir Albert de Rutzen, the cases of Mrs. Pankhurst and the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield were taken together. Mrs. Haverfield was defended by Lord Robert Cecil and Mr. Henle. Both they and Mrs. Pankhurst herself contended that the women had broken no law, and had merely sought to exercise an undoubted constitutional right.

Sir Albert de Rutzen decided, however, that they were in the wrong, but he consented to state a case for the higher Court. The defendants were therefore released on giving an undertaking that no attempt would be made to interview the Prime Minister at the House of Commons until the case was concluded, provided that this should take place within the present year.

Meanwhile Miss Wallace Dunlop, who before June 29 had twice endeavoured to remind members of Parliament of the people's constitutional right to petition the Government in power by stamping the following extract from the Bill of Rights upon the walls of the lobby of the House of Commons, had been sent to prison:—

### WOMEN'S DEPUTATION.

June 29.

#### Bill of Rights.

It is the right of the subject to petition the King, and all commitments and prosecutions for such petitioning are illegal.

As a protest against the treatment of women political prisoners as ordinary criminals, she courageously refused to conform to the prison rules, and initiated the hunger-strike, and after having been without food for ninety-one hours she was released from Holloway. Since then her splendid example has been followed by more than fifty women. The first fourteen of these women were arrested on June 29. The remainder were imprisoned for holding demonstrations of protest outside the meetings of Cabinet Ministers. Since the militant tactics began in 1905 hundreds of women have now suffered imprisonment for the cause of Votes for Women.

The question of Woman Suffrage has long been ripe for solution, for both the need and the fitness of women for the franchise have long since been demonstrated, and it is long since the majority of thinking people were converted to the justice of this simple measure.

But it is not so much because women ought to have the vote as because they have shown that they are determined to have it that the real history of the Suffrage Movement is now rapidly nearing its end.

### MR. WALTER LONG ON THE SUFFRAGETTES.

At a meeting in Trowbridge Town Hall on Saturday evening Mr. Walter Long, M.P., referred to the action of the Suffragettes at Birmingham. They read, he said, as they had read too often lately, that it was necessary for the Prime Minister to go to the meeting and to make his speech under special precautions in anticipation of Suffragists' attacks. He (Mr. Long) spoke as one strongly opposed to Women's Suffrage, though he did not place the question in the same category as he would place the maintenance of the Establishment of the Church, the Union with Ireland, or the alteration of our fiscal system. He did not say he was not open to argument about it, but he did say this—and in saying it he believed he spoke the views of the great bulk of his fellow-countrymen, whether Liberal or Conservative—that there was one argument which would never appeal to him, but would make him more determined than ever to resist a proposed reform, and that was the argument of force and personal violence. Women's Suffrage was being made absolutely impossible; no man responsible for the government of the country could consent, under present circumstances, to adopt it without exposing himself to the charge of personal cowardice.

The argument of violence and terrorism would never convince the great mass of Englishmen, but would make them more determined than ever to hold to their original opinions. When methods of this kind were applied to the Prime Minister it was time that we should all, irrespective of party, irrespective of personal opinions, raise our voices in protest against it. The position of Prime Minister was one of extreme difficulty, grave anxiety, almost immeasurable labour; and the time had come when we should all say, "a truce to these tactics!"

### TWO INTERVIEWS.

On Tuesday morning, as Mr. Haldane was on his way to attend the Conference of Civil Engineers at Westminster, a member of the W.S.P.U. approached him and, walking by his side, reminded him of the claims of women, and urged him to take some steps to bring about this very necessary reform, but he refused to listen. Mr. Haldane also refused to buy a copy of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

After evening service on Sunday at the Union Square Congregational Church, Brighton, a Liverpool Suffragette, seeing Mr. Lloyd George passing out, said, "Excuse me, Mr. Lloyd George, but does not this sermon make you feel the desire to use your powers to give votes for women and so help the women of this country?" Mr. Lloyd George, who was taken by surprise, suddenly turned round and hurried off, refusing to accept a badge which the Suffragette offered him.

### AN INTERVIEW.

(With apologies to Lewis Carroll's "Father William.")

"You are paid, Mr. Asquith," a Suffragette said,  
"To be statesmanly, wise, and polite;  
And yet when I've called you've invariably fled—  
Do you think, in your place, it is right?"

"In my youth," Mr. Asquith replied, "just in fun,  
That doubt might have entered my brain;  
But now that I'm perfectly sure I have none,  
Why, I'll do it again and again."

"You are paid," said the girl, "as I mentioned before;  
There's a tax in the rent of my flat;  
Yet to greet me you've constables massed at your door—  
Pray, what is the reason of that?"

"In my youth," he replied, double-locking the gate,  
"My logic was famous and supple;  
Those policemen defend me from matters of State—  
Allow me to whistle a couple."

"You're afraid," said the girl, "and you're not very bright,  
And I've promised to see that you rue it;  
You may send me to gaol for a month out of spite,  
But—how do you manage to do it?"

"In my youth," said the Premier, "I took to the law—  
It is used in political strife;  
I'm a pig-headed man with an obstinate jaw,  
And your cause is the plague of my life."

"I am glad!" said the girl; "one would hardly suppose  
That your eyes were as steady as ever;  
Yet you see what's occurring just under your nose—  
What makes you so awfully clever?"

"I have answered three questions, and that is enough,"  
Said the Premier; "Don't give yourself airs.  
Do you think I can listen all day to such stuff?  
Be off, or I'll throw you downstairs!"

## HOW DUNDEE SUPPORTED THE WOMEN'S CAUSE.

By Adela Pankhurst.

Miss New, Miss Burns, and Miss Paul were in prison when I arrived in Dundee on Friday evening. The workers had been round the town with placards announcing a meeting, and as we looked across the square hundreds of people had already assembled at the High School gate. Small newsboys carrying placards with enormous headlines, "Dundee Hunger Strikers—Will They be Released?" darted to and fro shouting excitedly.

We only held a short meeting; everyone was too excited and strained either to speak or listen. Our thoughts were fixed upon the dark prison and the women inside it who were bearing their weakness and pain for all our sakes. The word to go up to the prison was responded to eagerly, and the crowds flocked up the street in thousands. The streets were blocked with a surging mass of people running and stumbling up the steep hill to the prison. As we approached the gates cheers rang out. The police rushed to defend the gate against an imagined assault, and they turned our horse's nose up the street, ordering us to move on. We did, but only to encircle the whole prison and a block of streets and houses with a dense mass of cheering men and women. A telegram was sent down to Bingley Hall from the Dundee citizens, and would reach Mr. Asquith just about the time that the last thundering cheer shook the walls of the Dundee gaol, when, having cheered their hearts with our message, we left our prisoners to sleep.

We knew it was a question of hours only, and in Lamb's Hotel the manageress and the servants—all ardent Suffragettes—had everything ready, and Dr. Bartholomew awaited a telephone message. About 10.30 a cab drove up to the door, there was a cheer, and the hunger strikers were helped out and taken upstairs. They were all very weak, but as merry as possible, and eager to see us all and one another. Whilst they were receiving their first meals, under the superintendence of the doctor and Matron McFarlane, reporters rushed to catch the first news. They were also most sympathetic, for the wonderful endurance of our brave women has touched the Scotch heart very deeply; there is no more joking in the Dundee papers—there is now at least respect, if not support; for woman ready to lay down their lives for others compel honour from everyone except the Government. The first words of all the hunger strikers were messages of thanks to the prison officials—to the governor, the matron, the doctor, and the wardresses. They had been treated with the greatest courtesy and respect, even though the law was carried out in every particular. The Government must get a new set of officials in Scottish prisons if they want to carry out their usual policy of tyranny and torture; those in Dundee are above their influence. It was a very anxious night for all. Miss Paul and Miss Burns, still suffering from their previous fast, had very weak pulses, and caused us to fear really serious results. Miss New, with her inexhaustible courage and endurance, was the strongest of the three. Mrs. Pankhurst arrived on Saturday afternoon. The invalids greeted her in weak but determined voices with, "Have you any work for us to do immediately?"

There was to be no immediate work, however, and to-day the Union motor has taken them to Miss Macgregor's house in Forfar to be nursed back to health.

The largest hall in Dundee could not hold the people who flocked to hear Mrs. Pankhurst; we had to have a great overflow meeting at the High School gate, since the ears of the disappointed crowd were tickled by the roars of laughter and applause from within the Gilfillan Hall. Miss Kelley and the hunger strikers were cheered to the echo.

It is wonderful to see the way in which the Suffragettes who have faced imprisonment are honoured. Women leaving the mill, with dusty shawls over their heads, heavy feet, and tired faces, all smile and wave to us. Men leave their looms and crowd to the windows. Cabmen and newsboys, porters and sailors hurry up to shout "Hurrah!" and to put kind inquiries after our lately imprisoned friends. The shopgirls hurry forward to serve us, and the small boys, the terrors of the streets, have been absolutely conquered.

Great indignation has been expressed as to the conduct of the baillie who sentenced the Suffragists at Dundee. He is a noted Liberal, and it is thought by Dundee people that common honesty would have prevented him from sentencing his political opponents. The papers describe the sentences as heavy, though to us, used to English courts, they are remarkably light. Mr. Winston Churchill visits Dundee on October 23, 25, and 26, and before that we are having a mission to Liberal women, for we are determined that womanhood shall not be disgraced by the action of women who, to further their party interests, work for a member of the Government guilty of such shameless deeds.

## THE SCOTTISH DEMONSTRATION.

As the day of October 9 draws near details of the great demonstration and procession are being rapidly filled in. The order of the procession is now complete and is given below:—

### ORDER OF PROCESSION.

COLOUR BEARER:—THE HON. MRS. HAVERFIELD.  
WOMEN PIPERS.  
SCOTTISH NATIONAL BANNER.  
PIPE BAND AND RELIEF BAND.  
JENNY GEDDES.  
GROUP OF NOTABLE WOMEN.  
LEADERS OF THE N.W.S.P.U.  
EDINBURGH AND MIDLOTHIAN MEMBERS.  
NEWHAVRY FISHERWIVES.  
EDINBURGH HISTORIC PAGEANT.  
MRS. PANKHURST'S BANNER.  
BRASS BANDS.  
GLASGOW MEMBERS AND GLASGOW BANNER.  
WEST OF SCOTLAND AND GLASGOW PAGEANT.  
UNIVERSITY GRADUATES AND BANNERS.  
PIPE BAND.  
STIRLING AND OTHER TOWNS.  
PIPERS, AND GENERAL PUBLIC.

The Hon. Mrs. Haverfield will carry the colours of the Union on horseback; and the first banner carried will be that of the Scottish standard, followed by the banners of Edinburgh, Glasgow, Stirling, Dumfries, Hawick, and Berwick-on-Tweed. The leading feature of the procession will be the pageant of great Scottish women, which will be of special interest. A very large turnout is also expected of University graduates, students of the University of Scotland, teachers, nurses, business women, and others who are anxious to protest against their exclusion from citizen rights. Arrangements for working up the procession are being rapidly concluded. In addition to the campaign in other parts of Scotland, Edinburgh is divided into the following districts:—East, South, West, Central, and Leith and Portobello.

Lady pipers, including Miss Watson, of Leith, lead off the procession. The pipe bands, which will be decorated in the colours of the Union, include the Leith Celtic Pipe Band and the Edinburgh City Pipe Band. Among the brass bands will be the Kirkcaldy Trades Prize Band, Broxburn Public Band, and the Musselburgh and Fisherrow Trades Prize Band.

Among the Scottish banners are many bearing well-known Scottish mottoes.

### Announcements to Friends and Workers.

There are still many vacancies in the list of workers and helpers for the 9th. We want volunteers for the posts of group marshals and banner marshals, and captains, stewards, etc., and also for filling some of the characters in the pageant. We also want assistance in the clerical work at the office. The Misses Cecilia and Evelyn Haig are regularly at the offices at 63, Princes Street, and will be glad if members who are now back from their holidays will look in to see them.

Miss Methven, who is hospitality secretary, will be glad to hear of any Edinburgh members who will give hospitality to those who come from a distance. Miss Macaulay, Miss Chapman, and Mrs. Drummond will meet the members in the offices on Tuesday next to receive promises of what help they can give on the day.

The banners sent from local centres must be in the hands of Mrs. Drummond not later than October 4.

Although many good folks are sorely vexed over the militant methods of the Suffragettes, there can be no doubt that their daring demonstrations in all parts of the country are compelling popular attention to their fair claim of Votes for Women.

—*Evening Telegraph and Post* (Dundee).

### Well Done!

A correspondent writes to point out that in the trial of the Suffragettes at Dundee last Tuesday the Baillie began to sentence Miss Paul before she had been asked if she had anything to say. On the prosecuting counsel drawing the Baillie's attention to this fact he said, "I expect she will only say what we have already heard." As Miss Burns received her sentence and passed out of the dock, Councillor Scrimgeour cried out, "Well done! Votes for Women!"

Incidents illustrating both bravery and courage on the part of women are continually coming to hand. One occurred at Plymouth the other day when a lady—who, by the way, is a Suffragist—dived into deep water fully clothed, and held up a lad of sixteen until they were both rescued by some boatmen.

## AT ST. JAMES'S HALL.

Thursday, in last week, the first London At Home after the holiday campaign saw an eager crowd thronging the pavement all round St. James's Hall, awaiting the opening of the doors. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst were expected to speak, and the interest of the occasion was increased by the presence on the platform of the Hunger-Strikers, the more recent exponents of that heroic protest.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence (in the chair) was in her happiest vein. Alluding to the strenuous successes of the holiday campaign, the speaker, amidst great applause, announced yet more vigorous action in London. "We are going to give you the task of your lives." Women were not thankful enough to-day that champions of their own sex had been found who faced death and life-long injury to uphold the dignity and honour of women. People did not sufficiently realise that the women of to-day were fighting the greatest of causes for the release of the soul of womanhood from humiliating subjection. Mrs. Pankhurst, the founder of our Union—(applause)—had urged the Government to receive a deputation, as, if their claims were ignored, women would be driven into revolution. The Government had looked on this as an empty threat, but "we are going to carry this thing through, cost what it may," said Mrs. Pethick Lawrence slowly and emphatically, the audience listening with strained attention. "Are we satisfied with the position of women?" asked the speaker, and a loud, stern "No!" answered her. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence then dealt with the actual facts of the disabilities of women from the cradle to the grave. This part of her speech was specially impressive, all the women in the crowded hall listening eagerly, gloomily.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's impressive speech was immensely applauded. She then called on Miss Christabel Pankhurst, "the initiator of the militant movement," to present to the valiant Hunger-Strikers the famous "barred-gate" brooch. Miss Nellie Crocker spoke on behalf of her fellow-strikers. In a clever, lucid little speech she described their unfair trial at Leicester—practically with closed doors and no witnesses.

Mrs. Dove-Willox, who was much applauded, also spoke. She observed that the vote is so good a thing that we are kept out of it by reason of its value. Bristol, very militant, had done well, but she could answer for even better results when the time came for the next deputation.

When Miss Pankhurst rose to speak she was enthusiastically cheered. She said that many people did not like their methods, but were their methods popular, people would not care if they went on for ever. The country must be got to say with one voice, "This must be put a stop to." A storm of hostility always proved that people wished the militant methods to end. Necessity knew no law. "We have got to get the vote," she said, "if not in one way, in another. There is a proper place where we could keep the Prime Minister in order—the ballot-box at the General Election." Far from objecting to an intrusion on the private life of an elusive Prime Minister, women ought to be grateful to those who protested at Lympne. Windows had been broken, but providentially no one had been hurt. People never liked the latest development, but breaking windows was no more dangerous to life and limb than rushing the doors of meetings from which women were unfairly excluded. "We are not going to give in," said Miss Pankhurst, emphatically, amidst great applause, "and we only go as far as we need. The Government must be reminded that women are dissatisfied; the cessation of hostilities lies in their own hands." The meeting was absolutely packed, and over a hundred people were turned away from the doors. The collection and promises handed up during the meeting amounted to over £40.

### PRESS EXTRACTS.

In the Royal stable at Sandringham is a beautiful mare named "Suffragette."

The Budget and women's suffrage, or, rather, the methods of the Suffragettes, are the agitating questions of the hour.

—*Liverpool Post*.

A great change has passed over the women of the western countries of Europe during the last fifty years, and, whether we like it or not, such a change is bound to produce the demand for political equality.

—*Literary World*.

The vote for women is anything but moribund, and we are to have the Suffrage apparently for "breakfast, dinner, and tea."

—*The Universe*.

### Woman's "Sphere."

There can be no question, we think, that the influence of women, when enfranchised, makes for the purifying and uplifting of the social and political life of the nation.

—*Baptist Times*.

### Italian Women and the Suffrage.

There is a Suffrage movement among the women of Italy as well as other countries, and the president is the Countess Giacinta Martini. When interviewed recently by a representative of the "Giornale d'Italia," the Countess said: "I thoroughly admire the Woman Suffragists in England. For a long time they were exceedingly moderate in the manner in which they made their demands for votes, and if now they are having recourse to violence, it is because they have grown tired of being put off and slighted. They are sure to obtain their desire eventually, and I think we, in Italy, would be wise to imitate their methods."

—*Our Home*.

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Mrs. TUKE, Joint Hon. Sec.  
Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE, Hon. Treasurer.  
Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST, Organising Sec.

The Women's Social and Political Union are NOT asking for a vote for every woman, but simply that sex shall cease to be a disqualification for the franchise.

At present men who pay rates and taxes, who are owners, occupiers, lodgers, or have the service or university franchise possess the Parliamentary vote. The Women's Social and Political Union claim that women who fulfil the same conditions shall also enjoy the franchise.

It is estimated that when this claim has been conceded, about a million and a quarter women will possess the vote, in addition to the seven and a-half million men who are at present enfranchised.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed immediately.

## IS IT RIGHT? IS IT WRONG?

Questions have been raised regarding the new development of militant tactics in this Union. For three years our battle for the vote was fought without resort to physical violence on the part of women, in spite of immense provocation. This can no longer be said. Women have thrown stones to the destruction of property and the risk of injury to persons. These are methods of violence hitherto specifically avoided in the conduct of this Union. Is it right? Is it wrong? It is well that the question should be asked and well that it should be answered.

But it is fitting in view of the violence and the injury that is being done daily to women by those who are withholding justice, and in view of the immense personal injury inflicted upon the active champions of the Woman's Cause and borne by them on our behalf, that the question should be asked, not from the point of view of the superior person, or of the critic who presumes to pass judgment, but with humility as a seeker after that Truth which must be for each one of us the light unto our feet. The question is not "Are these women justified in their action?" As well might the inhabitants of a beleaguered city pass criticism and judgment on the action of those who upon the walls are facing danger and death in their defence. But the question for each one of us must be, "What says the voice of conscience and reason to my own soul? Can I take my place beside these heroic fighters or not?"

No little maxims that we have learned by rote, no hearsay theories, no cut-and-dried morality, will serve us at a serious and critical time like this. Back to religion and history we must go to test and try our theories and maxims by the fundamental experiences of human life. "Acts of violence are wrong in themselves" said someone to me the other day, "and we ought not to do wrong even that good may come." But serious thought will show that acts of violence are not wrong in themselves. The Founder of our Faith once made a whip of small cords and drove the money-changers out of

the Temple. That was an act of violence. No one denies that it was humanly justified.

All governments and all judicial systems resort, as a matter of course, to acts of violence to meet various contingencies, and are acquitted of wrong by public opinion if it is held that the occasion and circumstances justify the deed. No condemnation rests upon the soldier, or the judge, though war is violence, and every form of punishment too; while the names of those who have resisted with violence even kings and princes in the name of human justice and right have become an inspiration to generations of their race.

The truth of the matter is that acts of violence are sometimes right and sometimes wrong. Into account has to be taken the motive which prompts the deed, and also the circumstances and conditions that render it necessary and expedient. This is universally taken for granted when those in power resort to acts of violence towards others who are subjected to their rule. Public opinion condemns not violence but excess of violence, that is more violence than the occasion warrants. It is only when the oppressed assume the unexpected attitude of resistance to the oppressor that the outcry of surprise and consternation is raised, and the determining factors are lost sight of.

Violence is always grievous, but it is not always wrong. If no active resistance entailing violence had ever been offered by the oppressed to the oppressor, by the subjected to the tyrant, the best and noblest records of humanity would never have found a place in the history of the human race.

The question remains. Are the acts of violence that have lately marked the development of the militant campaign justified by the motive behind the deed, and also by the absolute necessity enforced by conditions and circumstances? I am prepared to show that they are so justified.

So far as the motive is concerned, these actions are prompted by an absolute devotion to a cause which women deem to be the greatest ever fought for in the history of the world. The political, moral, and spiritual emancipation of that half of humanity which holds the life and destiny of future generations in its especial keeping; the release of the soul of womanhood to bring its influence upon the world to the shaping of the conditions of progress and the evolution of human life.

In order to judge of the necessity, a brief review must be taken of the militant campaign. It must be remembered that this war of freedom was begun when women had deliberately arrived at the conclusion that after forty unavailing years, the uses of argument and persuasion were at an end. Women knew that they were rendered artificially weak by the denial of political power, and that the Government to be fought was very strong. In entering upon this warfare, women were strong only in the rightness of their cause and in their determination never to yield or abandon the fight. The Government had everything on their side except right. Yet counting the cost women deliberately resolved to fight, and to fight to the end. Their first militant move was to question members of the Government at public meetings—at question time. These representatives of Liberalism, taking advantage of their superior position, and ignoring the justice of women's claim, met this move by having the women flung out of the meeting with violence. The choice now open to women was to accept failure or devise a new move. They thereupon carried the militant action one stage further—they protested during the speeches of Cabinet Ministers. The Government, seeing no sign of danger in the spirit of determined purpose thus manifested,

## TREASURER'S NOTE.

Every day this week a generous stream of gifts has been pouring into the War Chest. Those members of the Union who are not able to take an active part in the more stressful and strenuous side of the campaign are grandly supporting the agitation for which heroic women are literally giving their life.

Out of the magnificent total for the week of nearly £500, more than £200 has been given by Scottish women living all over the kingdom towards the expenses of the Scottish campaign. There remains over £2,000 to be raised for the completion of the £50,000 before Mrs. Pankhurst leaves this country on October 12 for her suffrage campaign in America. That we shall accomplish this task, great as it is, there is not the smallest doubt, for all our members and friends will co-operate, we know, to secure this result. It is an immense satisfaction to realise how thoroughly the Government policy of wearing down this movement has been defeated by the magnificent financial support rendered by hundreds and thousands of women.

Women to-day do not accept everything that they are told by opponents, who would again, as in the past, take advantage of their necessarily limited experience of practical politics, and make them believe that the militant movement is putting back the clock. No argument is needed to refute this plea so long as we can publish week by week our always satisfactory contribution list.

E. P. L.

## CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £50,000 FUND.

September 15 to September 21.

	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
Already acknowledged	46,731 2 4	Mrs. Moir (for Organiser Fund)	1 0 0
Dr. C. H. Miller	1 1 0	Profit on Lands' End	0 2 6
Miss K. Streetfield (Child's Concert, Roedean School)	0 1 6	Extra paid on Literature	0 1 5
Miss Ivy Shercliff	0 5 0	For Organiser Fund—	
F. M. J.	0 2 0	Miss Mary G. Regan	0 4 0
W. and C.'s Collecting-box, Bourville	0 4 0	M. V. P. and M. P.	1 0 0
Alex. Devine, Esq.	0 10 6	Miss M. Knights	0 4 0
Mrs. Mabel Tuke	2 2 0	Miss Frances S. Drayton	0 13 0
Miss Madege Barfield	0 5 0	Miss Emily D. Cobb	10 0 0
Miss Kate R. Mann	0 2 6	For Precious Stones Fund—	
Miss Marian Berry	0 10 0	Miss Adela Goyder	0 1 0
Mlle. Ruth Mercier	0 1 0	For Prisoners' Fund—	
Anon.	0 8 0	Miss K. Streetfield	0 4 0
R. W. Skipwith, Esq.	5 0 0	Anon, per Miss Seymour	2 17 0
Hon. Mrs. Wilkinson	1 1 0	For Legal Defence Fund—	
Mrs. Wightwick	2 0 0	Mrs. Ernest Löwy	100 0 0
Mrs. P. von Holton	1 1 0	For Bye-Election Fund—	
Miss Gertrude Wheaton	0 5 0	Mrs. Isabella Morrison	1 0 0
Miss Riorden	0 8 0	Mrs. Kate Jackson	1 0 0
Putney & Fulham W.S.P.U.	5 0 0	Mrs. Chalmers	0 15 0
Mrs. Frank Ordish	0 5 0	Collected for Drum and Fife Band—	
The Misses Mackenzie	1 0 0	Miss May Allman	0 2 6
Thanksgiving for Sep. 21, G. L.	0 10 0	Miss Coventry	0 2 6
Miss B. F. Wylie	0 10 0	Miss Hattie Brown	4 11 6
Miss Grace Chappelow	0 5 0	Miss H. G. Brown	0 5 0
Miss Dorothy Pethick (for 12 happy days of holiday)	12 0 0	Miss L. Pearse	3 17 0
Mrs. Pethick Lawrence (for 12 happy days of holiday)	12 0 0	Miss E. Arundel Smith	0 9 2
Per Miss L. D. Marshall (collected at meeting)	0 3 7	Miss Froud	0 5 1
Mrs. O. M. Aldridge	0 2 0	Miss Coombs	0 5 3
Miss Ethel Birnstingl (sale of lavender bags)	0 2 0	Mrs. Fahey	0 13 0
A Friend, per Miss L. M. Brooks	0 10 0	Miss Godfrey	0 3 0
Mrs. G. C. Carter	2 0 0	Miss Jacobs	0 4 6
Miss Kate Griffiths	1 10 0	Miss Creaton	0 10 0
Miss Faraday	0 0 6	Miss O. Billinghurst	0 6 0
Miss Alice Heale	1 1 0	Miss Fraser	0 10 0
Nottingham W.S.P.U.	16 1 3	Miss Naan	0 5 0
Anon.	1 0 0	Miss Dallas	2 2 6
Miss Kate Jackson	2 10 0	Mrs. Barry	0 2 6
Miss Viro	0 2 6	Miss Abbes	0 0 3
Miss Tarrant	0 2 6	Miss Jessie Bartlett	0 10 7
Miss Janet Parves	0 5 0	Miss Johnstone	0 2 0
Mrs. Chas. Miller	1 1 0	Miss A. Kirby	0 5 0
Mrs. A. Solomon (10s. 6d. towards deficit on Welsh summer campaign)	2 12 6	Miss Limousin	0 2 0
Miss H. F. Pocock	0 10 0	For Scottish Campaign Fund—	
Miss B. Berry	0 5 0	Mrs. Darent Harrison	2 2 0
Miss Margaret Forbes (sale of Dresden China)	2 2 0	Mrs. McLauchlan	100 0 0
Miss Musson (collected)	0 1 0	Miss L. Murray (collected)	0 7 0
Miss Ada E. Farmer	0 15 0	John Brunton, Esq., Sen.	1 0 0
Miss Waller	0 3 0	Miss A. W. Allan	0 4 0
Per Miss Gawthorpe		"Sympathiser," per Miss E. Hudson	0 2 6
Miss Lillian Pallister	0 6 0	Mrs. Sophia Balgarnie	1 0 0
Miss A. Hyde	0 10 0	Miss Ruby Cameron	0 2 6
Manchester Members, per Mrs. Ratcliffe	2 10 0	Mrs. M. Robertson	0 2 6
"In honour of the defeat of Strangeways"	1 5 0	The Misses Gibson	0 10 0
Per Miss G. Jeffery		Miss K. Livey	0 2 6
Miss Butler (collected)	2 0 0	Miss Carlyle Graham	1 1 6
Miss E. Brown (collected)	0 10 0	"Sympathiser"	0 5 0
Mrs. Mitchell (collected)	0 10 0	Mrs. L. J. Grant	0 10 0
Miss E. Addams Williams (collected)	0 6 0	"Sympathiser"	1 0 0
Mrs. Anderson (collected)	1 1 0	Miss Soga	1 0 0
Mrs. M. H. Mackworth	7 11 0	Mrs. Turner	1 0 0
Mrs. Battersly, per	0 5 0	Anon.	0 3 0
Per Miss Marsh		Mrs. David Barclay	2 10 0
Miss E. Roberts (Precious Stones Fund)	0 1 0	Mrs. Keddle	1 0 0
Miss Kemp	0 6 0	Mrs. Pullar	1 0 0
Per Miss Phillips		Mrs. Greig	1 0 0
Miss A. N. James	4 3 3	Mrs. White	2 0 0
Miss A. N. James (for Legal Defence Fund)	0 13 7	Mrs. Wallace	1 0 0
		Miss Boyd	0 5 0
		Lady Steel	2 2 0
		Per "Votes for Women" Club (collected at Meeting)	1 6 6
		Miss E. Rintoul (collected)	5 7 0
		Collections, etc. (Scottish Campaign)	61 1 10
		Membership Entrance Fees	1 18 0
		Collections, etc.	58 1 3
		Exhibition—Stall Takings (additional)	2 14 5
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£47,219 10 6</b>

met the new protest by excluding women from public meetings. Again, the choice of abandonment of the fight, or of further developing the militant policy, was thrust upon the fighters. They then conceived and carried out the policy of holding protest meetings, and of attempting to force an entrance to those public meetings where a member of the Government was discussing questions vitally important to them, calling upon sympathisers in the crowd to back them up in their endeavour. Again, choosing to ignore the seriousness of the position, the Government thought to finally crush the agitation by means of a cleverly devised police method. Women were kidnapped the moment they appeared on the scenes, and shut up in the police-court, without being charged, until all the proceedings of the meeting were over, when they were quietly turned out. Against surprise rushes, the town, and specially the hall, where the political meeting was going on, were fortified by strong forces of police on horse and on foot. Shut out of meetings where the laws of taxation were being discussed which affect women taxpayers equally with men, deprived of all means of protest hitherto devised, denied also the right of petition by deputation, refused all access to their political masters, women were faced again by the inevitable choice either to admit that the game was up and give in, or, by the discovery of a new move, to render futile the Government's policy of repression. No protest now could find its way into the public meetings except by stones. If the battle was to be continued at all, it must be by the abandonment of the rule hitherto observed, "No destruction of any kind! No physical violence!!"

Women, in direct opposition to their instinct, tradition, and normal character, have thus been forced into a revolution in defence of their rights and liberties, and for this the Government is responsible, and not the women. Women, even more than men, hate war. Women, even more than men, love peace. But there is one thing better even than peace. It is honour. And there is one thing worse than war. It is the ignoble bondage of subjection. The Government, in forcing this issue upon us, has calculated from the outset upon women's hatred of violence as the guarantee of success for its policy of repression by brute force; but it has discounted the determination of women never to abandon this legitimate fight for a cause that is dearer to them than life.

The conflict which statesmen, and above all Liberal statesmen, should have avoided has come to a very serious point. We are pressing the Government hard, driving them by our militant action and by the passive resistance of the hunger strike, into a corner from which there is no outlet except by giving votes to women. They, too, are pressing us hard, driving us into a corner by their relentless repression, from which there is no outlet except by the adoption of methods which we hate. The question is, Who will yield first? Not the women, because they are fighting for a fundamentally sacred cause which they dare not betray by abandoning the fight.

If we resort to any stronger action before all the moves yet tried have been rendered impossible, if we go on a step further than is absolutely necessary in order to accomplish the end of this warfare, then we shall be responsible and blameworthy; but if we move only as we are forced to move by the absolute necessities of warfare, then the Government which forces us to fight for our very existence in the body politic, is alone responsible for what happens. This is a revolution. This is a war. But it is a revolution forced upon us. It is a war which we are called upon to wage in the name of liberty and justice. Let the heart of every woman in the movement be the heart of a hero and a warrior, then shall we fight unflinchingly to the very end, and shall forget the strain and the stress in the joy of the battle, which is bound to end in victory for the right.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

## MR. ASQUITH'S VISIT TO BIRMINGHAM.

In spite of the important political issue involved in the Budget controversy, the conflict between the Government and women dominated the thoughts of everybody on the occasion of the visit of Mr. Asquith to Birmingham on Friday last. The accounts which we give below from our special correspondents, supplemented by the narratives taken from the daily Press, will enable our readers to form some faint idea of the events which took place. But it is impossible in cold print to do justice to the vigour and magnitude of the demonstration, which exceeded anything previously achieved by the W.S.P.U. outside the metropolis.

### THE ACCOUNT OF AN EYE WITNESS.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

At last Birmingham has been awakened to the fact that women are in deadly earnest in their demand for political freedom.

I can imagine an innocent passer-by, coming unawares upon the scene round Bingley Hall last Friday, rubbing his eyes with amazement and wondering whether he could really be in the England of to-day. For the intricate barricades one behind the other up and down the streets, the barred and padded windows, the waiting army of men on foot and on horseback could suggest nothing short of the fear of an invading army. But what of the huge American fire-escapes on either side of the fort, and those hundreds of yards of firemen's hose lying along the roof? What could it all mean? Who could guess that all these elaborate precautions were taken to prevent one unhappy obstinate old man being forced to grant an interview to a small (but determined!) band of women?

In spite of these minute and humiliating precautions—as the "Times" calls them—the women made one of the most successful and effective protests that have ever been made; and not the least effective part of it was the obvious impotence of the enormous force arrayed against them.

Their plans were carefully laid; in the streets both in front and at the back of Bingley Hall Suffragettes had been lodging for several days, and by nine o'clock on Friday morning there were upwards of a score of them safely stowed away there, watching with no little amusement the nailing up at the ends of the streets, under the chief constable's own supervision, the barricades which were to "keep the Suffragettes out!"

As the evening drew near the streets beyond the barricades began to fill with the typical English crowd of all classes, who watched with interest those fortunate individuals who were ticket-holders being squeezed through a tiny gangway made in the barricades, doubly guarded by mounted and foot police, and then being escorted up to the hall by a posse of foot police with merely one mounted here and there. As time went on the crowd grew denser, and every now and then a cry of "Votes for Women" rang through the air, accompanied by vociferous cheering. There had been many meetings and a demonstration in the Bull Ring the night before to educate the people, so they knew what was expected of them, and meant to live up to it.

Suddenly there was a sound of splintering glass, and a voice was heard denouncing the Government. Two windows of the outer office of Bingley Hall had been broken by the women in the house opposite. Literally dozens of policemen rushed into the house, tumbling over each other in their eagerness, and, dragging the two women out, they threw them into the street, where they were immediately arrested. Scarcely a minute passed before there was another shout, and more glass splintering, accompanied by the sound of missiles being thrown on to the roof of the hall. This time it was on the other side of the hall; two women had succeeded in climbing on to a neighbouring roof, from which, with the help of axes, they managed to dislodge some slates, which they flung on to the roof of the hall, and on to Mr. Asquith's motor-car, which just then arrived on the scene; the windows and the lamp were broken, but the women, true to their resolution to hurt no one, were careful not to touch Mr. Asquith or the chauffeur. The police and stewards below, finding it impossible to dislodge the acrobats, turned the hose upon them; still they did not budge. Then the outwitted and furious men hurled stones and bricks at their plucky antagonists; for some time they withstood even this, but presently three policemen managed to climb round at the back, and dragged them bruised and bleeding to the ground, one of them with her head cut open by a brick. Wet, wounded, and weary they were led off to the police-station, being forced to walk the whole way in their stockinged feet, in spite of the injuries they had sustained.

At the same time, another disturbance was going on in a house near by, where two girls behind locked and barricaded doors were working an electric motor-horn, which was interrupting the meeting so successfully that after some time the door was burst down by infuriated Liberals, who broke through the barricades and wrested the instrument from the women's hands.

Meanwhile, the seething mass of people behind the barricades in the streets were fast getting beyond the control of the police. Led by Suffragettes they rushed the barricades again and again, each time to be beaten back by the overwhelming force of mounted and foot police. Before long the situation began to look serious for the foremost of the rioters, and especially so for the little band of women wedged between the angry police and the surging, tightly packed crowd. A low moan escaped from one frail little woman, who had had more than her share of buffeting. This was too much for the people; they charged the police, and forced them to free the girl, whom they triumphantly carried off.

The crowd backed up the Suffragettes magnificently throughout, their one fault being that, regardless of all entreaties, they persisted in putting the safety of the women before the advancement of the cause. One woman was forcibly rescued from the police and borne away to places of safety seven times during the evening. Not for long, however, could the women be induced to remain in refuge; they had hardly recovered their breath before they were back in the midst of the fray, urging on the crowd to break down the barricades.

Inside the hall Mr. Asquith was getting a warm reception from the men sympathisers, who questioned him upon Votes for Women with clock-like regularity every five minutes throughout his speech. For this, these chivalrous champions of justice were brutally thrown out with what even the "Times" called "unnecessary violence."

Mr. Asquith's escape from the hall was ingeniously planned, but in spite of the back passages and railway sidings through which he crept to the station, he could not escape the vigilant eyes of the Suffragettes, who made their presence felt by a shower of small stones, thrown through the window of one of the carriages of his train.

Never for one instant while he was in Birmingham was Mr. Asquith allowed to forget the women's demand. How is it that though the Prime Minister has all the protection that money and power can bring, still the women's voice is always heard? It is brute force pitted against spirit—spirit which is daunted by nothing—risk of injury, loss of liberty, starvation, even death itself, if necessary. Such a force can never be defeated. B. A.

### INSIDE THE HALL.

(By Our Special Correspondent.)

To an impartial observer Birmingham on the 17th inst. must have resembled more closely Paris in the days of the Commune than a free city of England under a "liberal" Government. As I followed the crowd to Bingley Hall I was stopped two hundred yards from the entrance by a wooden barrier guarded by a double row of police. Through this we were allowed to pass one at a time on showing our tickets, and fifty yards further on we came to another barrier similarly guarded, and a third and a fourth barrier had also to be passed before we gained admittance to the hall.

Inside our tickets were again closely scrutinised by the posse of stewards allotted to each row. At every entrance, at intervals along the gangways, even in the middle of the hall, were groups of policemen. And within this quadruple cordon of mounted and dismounted police a band of trumpeters led the singing of songs of freedom!

"Keep the light of Freedom shining,  
Still the cause of Right defend. . . .  
Save thy people from oppression,  
From injustice set them free!"

What mockery to sing these words amid hundreds of stewards and police prepared to stifle the free speech of each lover of liberty!

Instructed by the trumpeters, the audience broke into "For he's a jolly good fellow" when Mr. Asquith came upon the platform, but not even the most hardened Government newspaper can pretend that this "casual and ephemeral" Prime Minister is a popular figure that stirs enthusiasm. Indeed, several newspapers have commented on the fact that Dr. Macnamara and others met with a more spontaneous and enthusiastic reception than Mr. Asquith.

After a short address from the chairman, Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, the Prime Minister opened his speech with the usual compli-

ments to the audience and the chairman. At the commencement he seemed distinctly nervous, casting glances now at the skylights, now at the sounding board over his head, as if he momentarily expected from either the appearance of a Suffragette. For a good ten minutes, however, he was undisturbed, and getting comfortably into swing he waxed indignant that "for years past the people have been beguiled by unfulfilled promises, or put off by meagre, and to a large extent delusive, instalments." He was proceeding to expound the desire of the present Government to act otherwise when a young man rose in the body of the hall and appropriately asked, "Then why don't you give votes to women?" Half the audience rose to its feet, and amid the usual cries of "Throw him out!" and "Boot him!" were heard "That's the first!" "Now they've started!" Evidently some section of the audience anticipated this protest and expected others. They were not disappointed. Ten minutes after this protester had been half-throttled by stewards and ejected, Mr. Asquith was dilating on the "extensions" his Ministry proposed, when another man, about twenty rows from the platform, cried, "Extend votes to women. Why doesn't this Liberal Government—" The remainder of his sentence was lost in uproar as the stewards fell on him, and after a considerable struggle effected his ejection. During these protests the Prime Minister remained standing, but bent his head and toyed nervously with his notes.

Proceeding with his speech, Mr. Asquith claimed that the working classes were solidly in favour of the Budget, because he had received no protest from any body of working men. "What about working women?" cried a man from one of the side galleries. "Wouldn't it be more liberal to consult the women before taxing—" Prolonged uproar ensued, the interrupter fiercely resisting his ejection, and at last Mr. Chamberlain rose in his chair and, raising his hand to obtain quiet, said, "Gentlemen, we are here to listen to Mr. Asquith."

Order being restored, the Prime Minister expressed his further belief that the bulk of well-to-do citizens also accepted the Budget, and were prepared "to play their part, to do their fair share in the patriotic duty of meeting the needs of the State." "Will you give justice to women taxpayers?" shouted a fourth man in the body of the hall. Again a sickening scene of brutality was witnessed as stewards mobbed the interrupter, and many members of the audience protested against the way in which the man was handled, shouting "Fair-play," "Give him a chance." Mr. Asquith was forced to stop his speech for a couple of minutes, and again the chairman rose, and after obtaining some semblance of quiet, pathetically remarked, "Now, gentlemen, I hope you will allow Mr. Asquith to go on."

"Allowed to go on," the Prime Minister then began to deal with Lord Rosebery's speech, and after seven or eight minutes there occurred an incident incorrectly reported in the *Daily Mail*. The hall was so badly ventilated that the heat was stifling, especially at the back, where the crowd was thickest. So a man who at this stage rose at the back of the arena and called out "Votes for Women" fainted almost immediately from the heat and excitement. Some of the audience were maltreating his unconscious body when a St. John's ambulance man went to his rescue, and in the struggle the good Samaritan, though eventually successful, lost the buttons of his uniform.

A little later, when Mr. Asquith paused for a moment, a young man nearer the platform stood up and said, with quiet deliberation, "I protest against the exclusion of women from this meeting." This time cries of "Throw him out!" were met by counter-cries of "Leave him alone!"

Proceeding with his discussion of the land taxes, Mr. Asquith said, "I am obliged once more to ask what these taxes are?" Quick came the answer from a seventh man, "Taxes on voteless women, sir. Why do you—" The remainder of his sentence was lost in the uproar which followed. Five minutes later an eighth man seized upon a quotation from Adam Smith to inquire why women who paid taxes were denied the privilege of a vote. "At this stage," says the *Daily News*, "there was considerable interruption while another Suffragette supporter was ejected."

Another quotation was still more unfortunate for the Premier, whose rhetorical outburst, "Was John Stuart Mill a Socialist?" provoked a ringing reply from one of the side galleries, "No, sir, he was a champion of Votes for Women! Votes for Women!" The neatness of the retort caused general laughter, and Mr. Asquith himself acknowledged the hit with a grim smile, but his wit did not save this ninth interrupter from ejection and rough handling.

After order had been restored Mr. Asquith reverted to Lord Rosebery's speech, which he criticised at considerable length. During these passages a tenth and an eleventh interruption came from the back of the hall, "Votes for Women!" and "Never mind Rosebery—give women the vote!" Both interrupters were ejected, though no violence was offered to the man who met Mr. Asquith's next inquiry (where a scheme to replace the Budget could be found)

with a cry of "Fiscal reform." This interrupter was allowed to remain while the Premier enlarged on the topic, but the next man—the thirteenth—who cried "Votes for Women!" was promptly put out. Indeed, as might have been expected in Birmingham, there was more than one "Tariff Reform" interruption, but the stewards reserved all their energies for Suffragists, whom they now endeavoured to throttle before they could utter a word after "votes." There were at least two more Suffragist interruptions before Mr. Asquith concluded his speech at Bingley Hall, but all that could be heard were the words "votes" and "women," followed by a scuffle. Half-way through the speech some alarm was caused by the muffled reports of the women's "toy-bombs" exploding outside, and the Premier, as well as half the audience, started when a window in the skylight suddenly creaked. But it was a false alarm, only a couple of firemen giving a little air to a stifled gathering. These incidents and many others showed the "nervy" condition of the speaker and his audience, who all the time were (according to the *Daily Mail*) "wondering where the next throttling would take place." Than this confession no better testimony is wanted of the effect of the long series of Suffragist interruptions with which the Prime Minister's speech was punctuated.

As Miss Patricia Woodlock was being marched down Corporation Street to the police station a man called out, "Three cheers for Miss Patricia Woodlock!" These were heartily given by the crowd.

Owing to Suffragist interruptions Mr. Asquith's speech at Bingley Hall was so prolonged that he was only able to speak for five minutes at the overflow meeting in Curzon Hall, and here he was once again interrupted with a cry of "Votes for Women!"

F. R.

## ACCOUNTS FROM THE DAILY PRESS.

### AT EUSTON—PREMIER'S SISTER A SUSPECT.

As Mr. Asquith passed within the railings at Euston Station, looking the embodiment of health and good spirits, he was smiling cheerily. Did the observer read too much into that smile when he thought he detected in it a considerable sense of relief that the first crisis of the pilgrimage was safely over? A few moments later the vigilance which had secured him from molestation showed its efficiency in an amusing fashion.

Hardly had he reached the platform when a lady in grey was seen advancing towards the gateway, attended by a railway official. She tried to enter, but found three constables in the path, shoulder to shoulder. The barrier was immovable. A polite request was met by the query, "Have you a ticket?" "No, I am Mrs. Wooding." "You cannot pass without a ticket." Expostulations were fruitless. Up hurried a shocked chauffeur. "It is Mr. Asquith's sister." A stolid look. "It's all right, I tell you; I am Mr. Asquith's chauffeur." "Kindly go back, please," and the gentle pressure of the men in blue reduced the chauffeur to despair. What was to be done? The lady's striking likeness to the Prime Minister was enough to satisfy anyone not tied up by official orders. But face and bearing alike made no appeal to the representatives of duty. The lady's first impulse of vexation had long ago given way to a philosophic and humorous appreciation of the situation, which, after a couple of minutes' waiting, was satisfactorily cleared up by the arrival of Mr. Vaughan Nash, Mr. Asquith's secretary, and Mrs. Wooding was enabled to join her party.

—The Daily Telegraph.

### THE ARRIVAL OF MR. ASQUITH.

Mr. Asquith arrived at New Street Station at half-past six. There was a large concourse of people in the precincts of the station, who raised hearty cheers as the train came in, but the public were rigidly excluded from the arrival platform. The greatest caution, in fact, was observed in this respect. Not only were duly accredited representatives of the Press refused admittance to the platform, but even the Borough Coroner (Mr. Isaac Bradley), who had been invited to be present, was not allowed to pass the barrier of adamant station officials.

Various ingenious ruses were adopted to disguise the Premier's movements. When the train pulled up at No. 2 platform those waiting approached a door at one part of the train whilst Mr. Asquith quietly stepped out of a carriage at the end of the train, and walked by himself on to No. 1 platform, via the subway, and then ascended into the Queen's Hotel by the lift, which in the ordinary way only descends to the station level for the purpose of taking up luggage. Unperturbed by all the excitement he was causing, the Premier dined with excellent appetite. In the words of the hotel manager, he had "a full dinner, whilst the others only had snacks." The Premier took his meal in a private room, accompanied only by his secretary, Mr. Vaughan Nash.

All this time there was the greatest excitement and curiosity in the station precincts, especially in the Stephenson Place side, for word had gone round that Mr. Asquith was in the Queen's Hotel. This excitement was fostered by the presence of a force of mounted

police and numerous other officers of different grades, including the Chief Constable (Mr. C. H. Rafter) himself.

By a quarter to seven the bodyguard of Budget M.P.'s started in cabs and motor-cars to leave for the Liberal Club, in Lower Temple Street, where light refreshments were served.

The presence of the mounted police and several imposing equipages in the station yard naturally led to the belief that the Premier would leave the hotel by the main entrance. But this was only a ruse. At 7.20 he descended by the lift to No. 1 platform, and, again using the subway, made his way on to No. 3 platform, where, in the central drive of New Street Station, a closed motor brougham was waiting. He was accompanied by Mrs. Asquith and Sir Henry Norman, chairman of the Budget League, and the party left the station at the north end of the drive. The car then turned into Stephenson Street, and went to Bingley Hall via Lower Temple Street, though no stop was made at the Liberal Club. The precautions to prevent anyone approaching Mr. Asquith were completely successful.

—*The Birmingham Daily Mail.*

#### THE STORY OF THE WOMEN'S DEMONSTRATION.

In some respects the least envied man in this city to-night was the Prime Minister. All day long the people have been awaiting his coming, and on the lips of everyone were the words, "What is going to happen?" The Suffragists, in their chequered career, have had some moments of triumph, but never before have they held the stage so completely. From the very first they have made no secret of their determination to render Mr. Asquith's Birmingham visit as unpleasant as possible. Veiled hints developed into open threats; and yesterday they delivered an "ultimatum" to the citizens of Birmingham. Posters were disseminated warning the people that they would attend the Prime Minister's meeting at their own risk.

By six o'clock the streets leading from the railway station to Bingley Hall were crowded with people, and a strong cordon of police stretched from the platform to the very doors of the hall. To reach one's destination one had to undergo the ordeal of a spy in time of war. "Show your ticket!" became an incessant roar in the streets, and in the immediate vicinity of Bingley Hall barricades had been erected, with lines of burly policemen ready to thrust back the unfortunate person who had left his admission ticket at home. The Bingley Hall itself was literally packed by 6.30, and the hour of waiting was occupied in singing political war songs set to hymn tunes.

In order to frustrate the designs of the Suffragists it was arranged that Mr. Asquith, on alighting from the train, should be conducted by a private underground passage to his hotel, and thence he hastened with as little ostentation as possible to the hall.

Every policeman available in the district had been summoned for duty when the Premier arrived at Bingley Hall, where 7,000 persons awaited him. He was received with loud cheers, and if he had received any buffeting in running the Suffragist gauntlet he did not show it. The chairman, Mr. Arthur Camberlain, was listened to with impatience, and there was renewed cheering when Mr. Asquith rose to deliver the eagerly awaited speech.

He had not been speaking five minutes before a thin-faced man sprang up in the body of the hall and yelled "Votes for Women." Fifty stalwart stewards rushed viciously upon him, and he was frog-marched out. From the outside came a faint roar. I heard afterwards that it signalled a defeat for the Suffragists. Several of them had climbed on the roof of an adjacent factory, but the police gave warning to a body of firemen held in reserve, and a steady jet of ice-cold water was poured on the women.

One must go back to that night during the Boer war when Mr. Lloyd George was held a prisoner in the town hall here to gather anything like an adequate idea of the scenes in Birmingham to-night. The whole populace is abroad, and the police are being given a most anxious time. In all the streets leading to Bingley Hall barricades were erected, but when the crowd surged like a living wave, shouting, hooting, and cheering, the police and barriers were scattered.

It had been thought that Mr. Asquith would enter Bingley Hall from Broad Street, and there were loud groans of disappointment when it became known that he had been driven round by Cambridge Street. At this time there was a single cordon of police at the Broad Street barrier, but so violent did the crowd become that the mounted police were lined up, and three rows of police behind them. In the rushes which ensued several officers were seriously kicked. One Suffragist, brandishing an axe, forced her way to the barrier. "Come, friends," she cried excitedly, "we will break down the barrier"; but she was quickly seized by the police, who took the axe and several large stones from her. This incident was followed by a second wild rush, and while a policeman and his horse were struggling on the ground a young woman dashed up, flourishing a

hammer. "Don't arrest them," shouted the police superintendent; "give them every chance to cease." But the women fought like frenzied creatures.

At the other end of the street a Suffragist scheme had been planned which was to prove the most exciting incident of the evening. Superintendent Daniel noticed a man climbing the gates leading to a timber yard in Cambridge Street, and close to Bingley Hall. The superintendent ordered the police to rush the gates. Then there were screams from a roof above the officer, and two women were seen crouching behind a chimney stack about 30 ft. from the ground. The police called for a fire escape. The position was serious, seeing that Mr. Asquith was due to leave the hall to address the overflow meeting at Curzon Hall. The women were screaming "Votes for Women," and commenced to hack with axes at the slates and brickwork. The officers made desperate attempts to reach the roof, but every attack was met with a shower of slates. Detective-sergeant Whitehouse had his right hand seriously cut, and had to be medically treated. By this time the fire hose had been procured, and while a photographer took a flashlight snapshot a stream of water was poured on to the two shrieking women. "We will come down quietly if you will act like Englishmen and see Mr. Asquith accept our petition," shouted one, while the other, standing up and aiming a slate at the inspector, which missed him only by inches, shrieked, "Liberty or death!"

#### Hose Turned on Women.

Just as the police, led by Detective-officer Dracey, reached the roof, Mr. Asquith's motor car drove past the women's fort. "Look out!" came a warning cry, and a brick hurled from the roof passed over the Premier's motor car, and struck a detective on the foot, after missing a civilian's head by barely an inch. There were muffled cries as the police officers seized the two women on the very edge of the coping, overlooking the street 30 ft. below. Terrified women in the streets shrieked and turned their heads away while the violent struggle went on upon the roof. A fire escape was quickly rushed to the wall, but the women, acting like maniacs, continued to struggle, and asked that they might be allowed to get down alone. Eventually one officer stepped on the ladder and pulled one woman with him, a second officer holding her head. In this way the two Suffragists were brought to the ground and promptly taken to the police station.

Five arrests were made. Two gave the names of Mary Lee and Charlotte Marsh, but they refused to give their addresses. Their clothing was very wet, and, after they had received the attention of the female searcher, they were placed in a cell. Here they again became very violent, and smashed a number of windows. The three other women arrested were Laura Armsworth and Evelyn Currie, of Clements Inn London, and Patricia Woodlock, Liverpool, who were charged with doing wilful damage by breaking the windows of the Liberal Club in Lower Temple Street by throwing stones.

#### Carriage Window Smashed.

Mr. Asquith and the members of Parliament who came from London with him returned by a special train at 10.30. The train started from No. 1 platform, and a barrier was drawn across the end of it. A number of people assembled there, and shortly before the train started the window of one of the carriages in the rear of the train was smashed by what was stated to be a piece of iron thrown through it. Mr. Asquith, fortunately, was in the fore part of the train, and knew nothing of the incident. No one sustained any personal injuries. A woman who was seen to throw the missile was arrested, and a companion who was with her, and who had a stone in her possession, was also taken into custody. They refused to give their names and addresses. Thanks to the extraordinary precautions on the part of the police, the Prime Minister suffered no annoyance.—*The Standard.*

#### IN THE MEETING.

The right hon. gentleman was in good voice, but the early part of his speech was seriously interfered with by the senseless interposition of the male friends of the militant Suffragists.

Ladies with the exception of a favoured 150, were not admitted, and such was the dread of a Suffragist invasion that it was only in the course of the last day or two that this number of the fair sex received cards for seats.

The precautions taken to prevent the Suffragists carrying out their threats to waylay the Prime Minister were most elaborate. At the railway station barriers were erected to prevent the invasion of the militant woman, and the number of railway police on duty was greater than on the visit of His Majesty in July. One platform was entirely closed to the public, and trains timed to start from other platforms the moment the Budget League "special" arrived prevented a rush across the rails. Around Bingley Hall, and in the thoroughfares leading to the place of meeting, there were police in battalions, and none but ticket-holders were allowed in the streets surrounding the hall.

—*Daily Telegraph.*

#### THROUGH A SUBTERRANEAN PASSAGE.

Contrary to expectations, Mr. Asquith did not proceed from Bingley Hall to the residence of Dr. Symons in Hagley Road to stay for the night, but returned direct to London. His motor-car went straight to New Street Station, going via Cambridge Street, St. Peter's Place, Broad Street, Granville Street, Swallow Street, Pinfold Street, and into the entrance to the Post Office yard. There he dismounted, and, walking through one of the despatch departments, was conveyed from there into a subway by means of a lift. The subway, which was very dark and about a quarter of a mile in length, emerged on No. 1 platform. During the whole of his journey to the station very few people recognised the Prime Minister, and when he arrived on the platform a man who started to cheer seemed dubious as to the identity of Mr. Asquith. He was not given long to consider, however, for Mr. Asquith entered the Queen's Hotel lift, which descends on to the platform, and was whirled up into the hotel, where he waited the arrival of the 10.25 train.

Throughout his journey he was escorted by the Chief Constable, Chief Superintendent Daniels, and a dozen detectives. Under the subway a party of the latter preceded the right hon. gentleman, while others gathered round him, in order that anybody going along the subway would not see the features of the Liberal Leader.

—*The Birmingham Daily Mail.*

#### PRESS COMMENTS.

Mr. Asquith had an enthusiastic reception yesterday at Birmingham from a meeting convened with unusually elaborate care to prevent the intrusion of unsympathetic elements. —*The Times.*

Mr. Asquith's visit to Birmingham was extremely well stage-managed from the door of his official residence, in the bower-bedecked special train, till he took his stand on the platform in the now historic Bingley Hall, protected against the fairer but not weaker sex by a thousand police. —*The Daily Telegraph.*

Although the Suffragettes, owing to elaborate police precautions, did not succeed in interrupting Mr. Asquith's meeting yesterday at Birmingham, they occasioned some lively scenes.

—*The Daily Mirror.*

Is there no one with influence to check these disgraceful developments? Is it not in Mrs. Pankhurst's power to make an appeal to the wilder spirits to limit their action to legitimate obstruction? A word from her, we are sure, would be final. We hope in any case that a grave protest will be made from some quarter that will be listened to. The British public, after all, is the court to which we appeal on the Suffrage question, as on every other, and we can imagine nothing more calculated to steel the British public against "votes for women" than such frenzied and dangerous conduct as that of Friday.

—*The Daily News.*

The fact that the motive is political does place the crime in a different category, for it proves that some special methods are needed to deal with people whose minds are so warped that they think any violence excusable as a means of advancing political ends. The sentences dealt out to ordinary criminals are of little avail in such cases; for people who have this mental twist look upon ordinary imprisonment as a sanctifying martyrdom. Would it not be wiser frankly to treat such persons as criminal lunatics, and send them to an asylum "during the King's pleasure"? There are not many Suffragettes who would covet the crown of martyrdom on these terms; and the application of the penalty in a few cases would probably destroy a movement which has become a public scandal.

—*The Daily Graphic.*

With Suffragettes hanging on his coat-tails, so to speak, and the circulation of imaginary stories as to his Sunday golfing, the life of a Prime Minister in England is not all beer and skitties, if one can make use of so coarse a simile in connection with an office so distinguished.

The endeavour of the Suffragists to create a disturbance outside the Bingley Hall was of a most determined character. The police arrangements prevented them from holding anything in the nature of an organised demonstration, but they made their presence felt in many ways, and the scenes were unprecedented in the history of the city. The Suffragists showed considerable ingenuity and great daring in the methods they adopted.

At the corner of King Alfred's Place and for several yards down Broad Street the crowd overflowed into the roadway, and the police, both mounted and on foot, had great difficulty in keeping order; in fact, the crowd generally seemed more or less hostile to them, and whenever the mounted men rode their horses into the mass, forcing them on to the pavement, hooting and jeering was heard, and remarks such as "You curs, you would ride over your own flesh and blood!" were hurled at them. In more than one instance the mob—for at times the crowd devolved itself into such—laid hands on the men and the horses. At a point opposite King Alfred's Place the people became particularly unmanageable, and three horsed police charged them. This move had the effect of scattering them, but only for the time being, and once more they filled the

street. The order was then given for the men to form abreast. Five or six more mounted men were quickly on the scene, and in a twinkling the road was cleared.

—*Birmingham Daily Mail.*

If the promoters of Mr. Asquith's Birmingham meeting succeed in defeating the fell designs of the Suffragettes they will feel afterwards that they have a comparatively insignificant task in settling the great "constitutional" question. Those who imagine that the organisers of the great Bingley Hall demonstration have had the wicked peers in their minds all the time are far out of it. Day and night they have been thinking of the Suffragettes, in the certain and scarifying knowledge that the Suffragettes have been thinking day and night of them. If the whole story of the designs of the Suffragettes and the wiles of the Budget champions to foil them could be written what a comedy it would make! The British public would have so much to laugh at that for a time both the Budget and the House of Lords would be forgotten. The organisers of the meeting think they have taken their measures so well and so sweepingly that at last the feminine enemy will be brought to humiliating confusion, and they are the more inclined to be optimistic because the Suffragettes are howling out about their tyrannical methods. This, they think, is a good sign of impending victory. Still, Friday will bring forth its own history.

—*The Western Mail.*

Bingley Hall, apparently, has been in a state of siege all day. The streets leading to the famous cattle market are barricaded as if for an armed attack, policemen on horse and foot guard every approach against a storming party, and the roofs are protected with bomb-proof and brickbat-resisting material. No doubt a fire-man's uniform was in readiness for the Prime Minister's use in the event of the invading force overpowering the "blue guard." The danger comes not from infuriated anti-Socialists resolved to arrest the coming revolution; Mr. Asquith does not fear the political foe even in Birmingham. The enemy are the furious feminists, who have chased the Prime Minister, picketed his temporary and official residence, broken his windows, hammered at his door, and gone to gaol. Mr. Asquith will find it easier to go to the country than evade the Suffragists.

—*The Western Morning News.*

#### LETTERS TO THE PAPERS.

Mr. H. Collin Clarke, of College Hill, Shrewsbury, writes on September 18 to the *Birmingham Daily Post* as follows:—

As one who has no particular sympathy with the Suffragists, but as an ardent Radical, I desire to protest in the strongest possible manner against the treatment meted out to the men who interrupted with the cry of "Why don't you give the women the vote?" while Mr. Asquith was speaking. These were men of education, and were clearly fired by the sincerest conviction of the justice of their cause. Their courage in getting up and facing the anger of 11,000 people is a thing not to be explained away with ridicule. After the brutal manner in which the first interrupter was handled, the man whose turn came next must have realised to the full the danger of his course. I was sitting near to two of these men, and I propose to state exactly what I saw. The words were scarcely out of the man's mouth before he was seized in the most ruthless fashion by the stewards, who set upon him like wild beasts, dragged him from his place, and tore him along the gangway to the door. Many of the audience struck at the man, and I saw one man raise his fist as the victim was dragged along and deal him a terrific blow on the forehead. I know the number of this man's seat, from which his name can be disclosed, and I can personally identify him, and I am willing to give evidence and can also bring another witness. Two points arise: (1) Is it advisable to allow men to be ejected by stewards who are partisans, and consequently lose self-control and act in a revengeful and vicious spirit? (2) Supposing that those interrupters deserve physical punishment, is it right that this should be inflicted by the members of the audience at their own sweet will? Hitherto it has been a maxim of the English law that "no man shall take the law into his own hands," and this should be observed all the more as under the new Meetings Act disturbers can be legally dealt with.

Other letters on the same subject appear in the *Birmingham Daily Mail* as follows:—

Sir,—I am not a Suffragette, nor have I sympathy with the "cause," but I feel compelled, as an Englishman, to protest against the undue violence used in ejecting interrupters at to-night's meeting. I wish particularly to direct this to the individual (I won't shame the word "man" by applying it to him) who, when each interrupter was being hauled past him, deliberately leaned over the barriers and struck the then helpless Suffragist.

MERMAN.

Sir,—Allow me to express my keen indignation at the brutal handling to which the few interrupters were subjected. I have attended many public meetings, but never have I seen men handled in such a fiendish manner. I, a strenuous opponent of the Budget, attended the meeting to hear anything fresh, if there was anything fresh to be said, in favour of it, and should have resented interrupters making themselves a nuisance quite as much as any supporter of it. But, sir, these interrupters were not a nuisance. Their interjections were short and not intended to disturb the meeting. However, they were each roughly hustled out by four organisers of the meeting, one of them using a gag to put in the man's mouth, and each man ejected was struck many times by members of the audience in a manner that made my blood boil to see it.

SYMPATHISER.

A similar protest is sent to the *Birmingham Post* by Rev. A. F. Robson, vicar of St. George's, Redditch, who though a supporter of the Budget entirely disapproves of such action.

## AT THE POLICE COURT.

The ten women arrested in connection with the disturbances on Friday night at Birmingham were:—

Miss Mary Edwards, Miss Leslie Hall, Miss Mabel Capper, Mrs. Mary Leigh, Miss Charlotte Marsh, Miss Laura Ainsworth, Miss Evelyn Whurrie, Miss Patricia Woodlock, Miss Ellen Barnwell, Miss Hilda Evelyn Burkitt.

Mrs. Leigh and Miss Marsh, who had been on the roof of the house, were soaked to the skin, and Miss Marsh had her head badly cut. Bail was refused in the case of all the prisoners, who had to remain in the police court all night, Miss Marsh and Mrs. Leigh being obliged to wear their drenched clothing until the morning. The matron bound up Miss Marsh's head, describing it as a "nasty wound."

On Saturday morning Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who had travelled specially down to Birmingham, went to the police court and asked to see the prisoners, to consult with them as to their defence, but permission was categorically refused, and the prisoners came into the court without having had the opportunity of consulting their friends.

Mr. Hill prosecuted on behalf of the police, and said that the women were charged with certain offences which were really the outcrop of the meeting held in Bingley Hall the previous night. From the action of the defendants on the evening itself there had resulted something like a riot in Birmingham. The women were then placed in the dock, sometimes singly and sometimes two together, and detailed evidence was given against them as to their action. Eight of the defendants were remanded until Wednesday at the request of the police, who desired to bring further evidence and to estimate the amount of the damage. The cases of Miss Ellen Barnwell and Miss Hilda Evelyn Burkitt, who were charged with throwing missiles and damaging a railway carriage window, were disposed of at once. A remand was refused, and the magistrate sentenced each of

the prisoners to one month in the second division. The two women at once began a hunger-strike.

On Wednesday the remaining eight prisoners were brought before the magistrate. The hearing of the evidence against them occupied four hours.

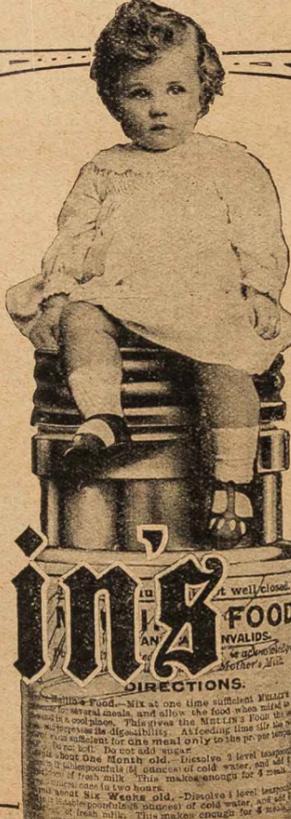
Mrs. Leigh and Miss Charlotte Marsh were charged with assault and damage. Both claimed that their quarrel was with the Government, and expressed their regret that this brought them into conflict with the police. Their motive was an honourable political one. They brought this point out clearly, and the Bench recognised it.

Miss Whurrie was discharged, but was re-arrested on a charge of breaking windows, and was brought before the Magistrates on the following day.

Miss Patricia Woodlock explained that her action in breaking the Liberal Club windows was a protest against the denial of the vote. She said, "I will continue to protest when I come out." Miss Ainsworth stated that the hatchet she had in her hand was for breaking the barriers between Bingley Hall and herself, and for no other purpose. The Government alone were responsible for all that had happened.

Miss Mary Edwards said she was sorry if she had injured the police; her quarrel was with the Prime Minister. Miss Capper claimed that the offences with which the women were charged were political, and demanded the recognition of this fact. Miss Leslie Hall made a similar statement.

The sentence on Mrs. Leigh was three months' hard labour on a charge of assault, and one month (in default of a fine) for damages; these were assessed at £4 15s. Miss Charlotte Marsh was sentenced to three months' hard labour, and Miss Patricia Woodlock to one month's hard labour. Miss Mabel Capper and Miss Leslie Hall each received one month in the second division, and Miss Mary Edwards six weeks in the second division, the latter on a charge of assault on the police. Miss Ainsworth was fined 10s., or in default two weeks' imprisonment.



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## THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

London.—Mrs. Flora Drummond, 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

West of England.—Miss Annie Kenney, 37, Queen's Road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton, Bristol. Exeter: Miss Vera Wentworth, 3, Richmond Road. Torquay: Miss Elsie Howey, 32, Victoria Parade. Cornwall: Miss Mary Phillips, 5, The Parade, Truro. Cardiff: Miss Elsie Mackenzie, 131, Richmond Road, Roath. Newport: Miss Gabrielle Jeffrey, 'Votes for Women' Shop (near the bridge).

Lancashire & North Wales.—Miss Mary Gawthorpe, 164, Oxford Road, Manchester. Liverpool: Miss S. Ada Flatman, 28, Berry Street. Preston: 41, Glover's Court. Rochdale: 84, Yorkshire Street.

Midlands.—Miss Gladice G. Keevil, 14, Ethel Street, Birmingham. Nottingham: Miss N. Crocker, 6, Carlton Street.

Yorkshire.—Miss C. A. L. Marsh, 68, Manningham Lane, Bradford. Middlesbrough: Miss D. Pethick, 3, Holgate Terrace.

Newcastle.—Miss Edith New, 284, Westgate Hill.

Glasgow.—Miss G. Conolan, 141, Bath Street; Miss Margaret Cameron, 148 Sauchiehall Street.

Edinburgh.—Miss Florence E. M. Macaulay, 8, Melville Place, Queen's Ferry Street; Mrs. Drummond, 63, Princes Street.

The network of organisation is being extended far and wide over the country, and splendid work is being done in districts where ignorance or indifference regarding the aims of the W.S.P.U. have formerly been the rule. Meetings, great and small, are showing that earnest sympathisers are to be found even in places hitherto unvisited by the Suffragettes. Among many important meetings arranged is one at Birmingham to-night, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak at the Temperance Hall; to-night also Miss Beatrice Harraden will give a reading of her play, "Lady Geraldine's Speech," at the Onward Hall, Manchester; and tomorrow (Saturday) the Coventry Demonstration will take place. On Tuesday and Wednesday next, September 28 and 29, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will address meetings at Redcar and Middlesbrough. On Saturday, October 2, a great meeting will be held at the White City, Manchester, to welcome Lancashire's fourteen Hunger-Strikers, and hear their experiences. On Thursday evening, October 7, a great meeting will be held at the Albert Hall, at which Mrs. Pankhurst will be the principal speaker, and on the Saturday following, October 9, the long-expected Scottish Demonstration will be held in Edinburgh, at which the leaders of the W.S.P.U. will speak, the whole day being devoted to processions, speeches, and other propaganda work. On Monday, October 11, Mrs. Pankhurst will give a farewell speech at the Sun Hall, Liverpool, previous to her departure for America. In other directions work is being steadily and surely done. The Liverpool shop will be opened by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence next Thursday (September 30); a shop has just been started at Newport, and arrangements are in hand for one at Cardiff. Large quantities of badges, pamphlets, etc., are being sold, and the circulation of VOTES FOR WOMEN shows a steady increase.

### LONDON AND HOME COUNTIES.

The At Home at the St. James's Hall last week was most enthusiastic, and we are working to secure full meetings every Thursday evening and Monday afternoon.

The activities of London workers are being mainly concentrated on preparations for the great Albert Hall meeting on October 7th.

A shop has been taken and opened at Hammersmith. It is situated midway between Hammersmith and Shepherd's Bush, and is only five minutes from the Post Office Savings Bank, West Kensington, and, therefore, in a central position. The work in this district in rousing interest in the Albert Hall meeting is proceeding briskly. Already £5 ls. worth of tickets have been sold, but more canvassers are very much needed. Miss Thomas has been good enough to lend her drawing-room. As the sale of tickets greatly depends upon the number of At Homes held, members and sympathisers who are able to help in this way will help very much by communicating with Miss Roe as soon as possible. Thanks to Mrs. Budd, the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN has been kept up during the holidays; but it is now more important than ever to increase the sale, and for this purpose at least two open-air meetings are being held every evening. Members willing to help in this way please call for papers at 160, Shepherd's Bush Road, Hammersmith, any time during the day.

Miss Corson will be glad if any members residing in the Paddington district who can help in a house-to-house canvass will kindly send in their names to her, at 4, Clements Inn, W.C. A considerable number of tickets have already been disposed of in this way. On Thursday an excellent meeting was held at Marble Arch, four dozen papers being sold at the close. The speakers were Miss Una

Dugdale and Miss Hewitt. On Friday a very successful shopping meeting was held in Westbourne Grove, Mrs. Eates being the speaker. Mrs. Knubley, of Findon Road, has kindly arranged a drawing-room meeting for the 29th inst. Will those who have any time to give at all please communicate with the Organisers who are working up the districts or with Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Similar work is being done in Kensington and Knightsbridge, where the Albert Hall meeting is being energetically worked up.

Sellers of VOTES FOR WOMEN are specially wanted every evening to sell outside Queen's Hall, where the people wait in queues for the Promenade Concerts. Will those who can do this please be at 4, Clements Inn at 6 p.m. any evening. It is very important, also, that a good band of sellers should be out this (Friday) morning; the supplement to this week's paper gives an account of the developments of the new issue, and it is most essential that the paper in its new form should be brought prominently before the public. There is still room for more recruits for the Drum and Fife Band, and Miss Dallas will be pleased to see anyone who wishes to volunteer at 4, Clements Inn. The local Unions are doing their utmost to get shops in their own districts. Kensington was the first to open; Lewisham came next, then Putney, and now Hammersmith has just followed suit.

### WEST OF ENGLAND.

It is hoped that definite arrangements may be made next week for At Homes all over the West of England. Meanwhile, in Bristol, extensive preparations are being made for the exhibition which will be held in the new year, and also for the mass meeting in Colston Hall before Christmas. A meeting was held last week to discuss plans for effectually advertising these, and also the weekly At Homes and the paper in its new form; and Miss Edith Craig also gave members valuable advice concerning the play, "How the Vote was Won," which will be one of the attractions of the exhibition. In Exeter good work is being done, and the Newport shop was opened last Wednesday by Miss Gabrielle Jeffrey, who has forwarded to the treasurer over £12 towards the expenses in connection therewith. Miss McKenzie is now in charge of Cardiff, where good headway is being made. Last week an outdoor meeting was held at Batheaston through the kindness of Mrs. Tollemache, who lent her garden, beautifully decorated with Chinese lanterns, for the purpose of the meeting, which was attended by a highly interested audience. Prospects in the West Country are very bright and hopeful; and Miss Kenney, who makes a strong appeal for funds to carry on the work, also wishes to thank all those who so kindly responded to her request for information regarding other towns in the West of England and in Wales.

In Cornwall the autumn campaign has made a very hopeful start. Active preparations are being made for the meetings at Launceston and Truro on October 21 and 22 respectively, at which Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will speak, and for which the names of all who can sell tickets or in any other way advertise the meetings will be welcomed. Volunteers are also asked to come forward for house-to-house hand-bill distribution, and also for stewarding, which latter department, as far as Truro is concerned, is in charge of Mrs. Crosby Smith. A very practical method of helping the cause would be by getting up drawing-room meetings or gatherings—however small—of teachers, nurses, students, shop assistants, etc., between now and October 21, with a view to arousing interest before Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's visit. Collecting cards for the Cornish Campaign Fund may still be had, to be returned, if possible, in time to give Mrs. Lawrence at either Launceston or Truro, and it is hoped that members will make a special effort to secure new subscribers for VOTES FOR WOMEN. Excellent meetings have been held during the week at Torquay, Paignton, Tor-e, Teignmouth, and Dawlish. More volunteers are needed to help to sell the paper. One Torquay member has made herself responsible for the sale of one dozen copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN every week, a good example which it is hoped many others will follow.

The first At Home of the season at Cardiff will be opened by Dr. Garrett Anderson on October 13 at the Park Hall, where subsequent At Homes will be held; and as this district is almost new ground, members and friends are asked to give their help to furthering the success of the movement in this part of the country. The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN is increasing, fifty copies being sold in twenty minutes outside the New Theatre, and helpers are wanted

to sell the paper every evening outside the theatres and concert halls. There are great expectations of opening a shop in Cardiff as soon as a suitable one can be found; meanwhile, Miss McKenzie will be glad to see friends and volunteers at 191, Richmond Road, Roath.

#### LANCASHIRE.

Holidays have now been left behind and the autumn and winter programme started. The Manchester At Homes begin again to-night, when Miss Beatrice Harraden will read her play, "Lady Geraldine's Speech." This special At Home will be held at the larger Onward Hall, and on this occasion the charge will be made 1s. for reserved and 6d. for unreserved seats, this charge being made to meet the expenses of the hall, though, as most of our readers know, the At Homes are generally free. It is confidently hoped that members will make this opening meeting a very great success. Miss Harraden has given readings at Southport and St. Annes to delighted audiences, and will visit Preston in the near future. A drawing-room meeting is being arranged at Farnworth, near Bolton, by the kindness of Mrs. Almond. Another important event is the public welcome in honour of the hunger strikers recently released from Walton and Strangways Gaols, which will be held at the White City on Saturday, October 2. For this it is hoped that parties may be made up in all neighbouring towns, who will avail themselves of the cheap excursion rates and be present in force to make the meeting a notable one from every point of view. Rochdale hopes to send a contingent by means of the reduced fares for pleasure parties, and it is expected that other Lancashire centres may decide to do the same. The charge for entrance—one shilling—admits to all the ordinary entertainments of the White City, but tickets (free) are necessary for the "hunger strike" and other W.S.P.U. indoor meetings. Miss Rona Robinson and Miss Helen Tolson will direct the energies of any workers who will help with this and who will report themselves at the office.

Liverpool members are looking forward to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence's visit next Thursday, the 30th, to open the new shop at 28, Berry Street. A very large attendance is anticipated, and members are asked to bring donations to be given to Mrs. Lawrence towards the expenses that have been advanced. It is hoped that the shop will be entirely self-supporting, and members are asked to give all the time they can spare to help with the work. Arrangements for the great demonstration in the Sun Hall on October 11 are completed, and there is every indication that a most successful meeting will be held for Mrs. Pankhurst on the eve of her departure for America. Tickets may be obtained from Miss Geraldine Lyster, who has accepted the post of Ticket Secretary, and if members are willing to make themselves responsible for the sale of ten or more tickets each to strangers (not members) a very large circle will be approached and interested, with the certainty of a record audience. The meeting is being advertised by daily dinner-hour and evening meetings, for all of which volunteers will be very welcome.

#### MIDLANDS.

Numerous meetings were held in Birmingham previous to the Bingley Hall protest (described on p. 1107 *et seq.*), and the At Homes and other meetings have now recommenced. Birmingham members have lately been devoting all their energies to organising a large meeting in the Temperance Hall to-night, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst will speak on the events of the Bingley Hall protest, and it is hoped that several of those who took part in it will be present. Tickets may be had, price 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., and some free tickets are also available. It has now been decided to remove the Birmingham offices to 33, Paradise Street, opposite the Midland Institute. The new premises will be artistically decorated, and among those who have promised to help in this direction are Miss Kate Berkeley, Miss Gatheral, Miss Welford and Miss Norman, while Miss Keevil will be glad to hear from any other members or friends who have time to spare to help in this work. The new offices will probably be ready by the middle of October, and as they are considerably larger than those in Ethel Street, additional office furniture will be required, the chief items being a desk, some rugs, a pair of curtains, and some Suffrage portraits. Miss Keevil is also anxious to have a telephone installed; this will cost £10, part of which has already been subscribed, only £5 being still needed, and contributions for this purpose will be gladly received. The Coventry Demonstration to-morrow has been organised by Miss Gye, several preliminary meetings having been held to advertise the event. Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Gladice Keevil and Dr. Helena Jones will speak from three platforms in Pool Meadow. The successful Caravan campaign has now come to a close, and the van has been returned to Mrs. Howey, by whom it was so kindly lent, and Miss Noblett, who has been in charge, is now back in Birmingham.

Following the release from Leicester Prison of the prisoners sentenced as a result of their protest at Mr. Winston Churchill's meeting, a welcome supper was given by the members of the

W.S.P.U. at Nottingham to Miss Nelly Crocker, Miss Gladys Roberts, and Miss Helen Watts. Mrs. Hawkins, a Leicester prisoner, was also present. The occasion was most festive and the welcome of the heartiest, and no effort was spared to make it a success. The "Marseillaise" was sung with great enthusiasm. Mr. C. L. Rothera, who moved the vote of thanks, said that as a life-long Liberal he was absolutely astounded at the attitude of the Government towards the women, and although he had invariably voted for the Liberal party ever since he had had a vote, he questioned very much whether he would do so again. At Home cards for Miss Helen Ogston's meeting on October 8, at 8 p.m., at the small Mechanics' Hall can be had at 6, Carlton Street. Members are asked to be present and to bring friends.

#### YORKSHIRE.

Miss Marsh reports that meetings are being held in Leeds, Bradford, and Sheffield, and members are asked to make a point of being present to support the speakers. For details see Programme of Events, p. 1199.

The great event of the week in North Yorkshire is the visit of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence to Redcar on Tuesday, September 28, and Middlesbrough on Wednesday, September 29, at 8 p.m. Miss Kathleen Brown, one of the early hunger-strikers, will also speak on both evenings. Mrs. Levick, M.D., of Middlesbrough, is kindly entertaining Mrs. Pethick Lawrence during her stay. In view of the recent developments in the militant policy, great interest has been aroused on all sides in the advent of one of the leaders, and there is every prospect that this will result in large audiences and an attentive hearing while Mrs. Pethick Lawrence expounds the need for militant methods and justifies their use. After the speeches the meetings will be thrown open to questions, when inquiries will receive careful and courteous attention from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. Several ladies and gentlemen have come forward to help in stewarding at these meetings, but many more are requisite, especially for Middlesbrough, as the Town Hall is large and will need many helpers. Immediate offers of help will be welcomed by Miss Pethick.

#### NEWCASTLE.

In the colliery district the principal event of the week has been the public welcome at Morpeth to Miss E. Davison, B.A., after her second hunger-strike; an immense crowd assembled. Miss Davison was met at the station by a procession headed by the Walker Colliery Band playing stirring music, and including several gaily decorated carriages. She was presented with a bouquet in the colours by Mrs. Turner Farley. Mrs. Taylor, of Chipchase Castle, and Miss Davison were the speakers at the meeting, which evoked so much interest and enthusiasm that another was eagerly asked for, the significance of the movement being apparently fully understood and appreciated by the canny North-Country audience. The stock of VOTES FOR WOMEN and pamphlets was sold out.

#### GLASGOW.

There was a large gathering at the weekly At Home in Charing Cross Halls, addresses being given by Miss Conolan, who has now returned to Glasgow, and spoke in defence of the militant tactics, and by Miss Theresa Garnett, who aroused much sympathy by an account of her "hunger strike." A large number of meetings are being held in Glasgow, Alloa, Greenock, Paisley, and the district, including special meetings for nurses and teachers. Excellent propaganda work is being done all over the West of Scotland in connection with the Scottish Demonstration. Now that this event is drawing closer, members who intend to take part in the procession are urged to obtain their train and meeting tickets at the shop in Sauchiehall Street. A special train will leave Central Station for Edinburgh at 12.50, return fare 2s. 6d. An interesting feature of the procession will be the groups of University graduates, teachers, nurses, professional and business women taking part, and the names of those intending to join these special sections should be sent in as soon as possible. Also the names of members willing to act as stewards, to take part in the pageant, to help in selling literature and in other ways will be welcomed by Miss Conolan at the office or shop. In answer to inquiries, it is announced that men as well as women will take part in the demonstration. The sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN in Glasgow this week has reached 1,000, and the shop continues to prove a great attraction. Large open-air meetings have been held at the Bridge of Allan, where Mrs. Pankhurst, Lady Constance Lytton, and Miss Theresa Garnett were the speakers; and a well-attended meeting was held at the Y.W.C.A. Hall, Stirling, where both Mrs. Pankhurst and Lady Constance Lytton spoke. The work in Dumfriesshire is being actively carried on, very encouraging meetings having been held in Lockerbie, Dumfries, Castle Douglas, and Thornhill. The visit to Lockerbie proved most opportune, as the Anti-Suffragists were holding a garden party there the same day. Miss McPhun gave an address in the Market Square to a crowded audience, and her meeting was reported at length in the local papers. At Thornhill, where the Votes for Women movement was a novelty, the crowd listened with great attention, and at the close of the meeting rapidly bought up the entire stock of literature and badges.

### OUR POST BOX.

To the Editor of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—We have found our two "Welcomes" to our Newcastle and Morpeth Hunger-Strikers most simple, popular, and effective methods of enlisting public sympathy and gaining adherents to Votes for Women, as well as of expressing our own feeling towards our brave comrades.

I wish to urge that Welcomes to Hunger-Strikers on their return should be given wherever it is possible to do so, and will gladly paint the required special banner if the local name is sent me: "Welcome the (name of town or county, or individual name) Hunger Striker."—Yours sincerely,

Mrs. M. TAYLOR.

Chipchase Castle, Wark-on-Tyne.

### BOOKS RECEIVED.

"Conservative Socialism; or, Socialism for the Middle Classes." By Y. Knott. Sonnenschein. 1s. net.  
 "The Russian Bastille." By I. P. Youvatshev. Translated by Dr. A. S. Rappoport. Chatto and Windus. 7s. 6d. net.  
 "Some Pages from the Life of Turkish Women." By Demetra Yaku (Mrs. Kenneth Brown). Constable. 5s. net.  
 "Beatrice the Sixteenth." By Irene Clyde. George Bell. 3s. 6d.  
 "Mémorial and Letters of Francis W. Newman." By I. Gibberne Sieveking. Kegan Paul. 10s. 6d. net.  
 "Lovely Man." By G. E. Farrow. 19th Edition. Skeffington. 1s. net.  
 "Happiness." By Maud Stepney Rawson. Methuen. 6s.  
 "The Woman At Home." (October). Newnes. 4½d. net.

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LOCAL NOTES.

BRIXTON W.S.P.U.—When we arrived at the White Horse on Thursday evening we found our audience already waiting. The crowd listened most attentively, and our meeting was thoroughly successful. On Sunday we had a good meeting in Brockwell Park. We took a collection, and sold out our stock of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Our next meeting in Brockwell Park will be held on Sunday, October 3, at 3 p.m.—KATHLEEN TANNER.

CAMBERWELL AND PECKHAM W.S.P.U.—A successful meeting was held in Dulwich Village last Saturday, and our stock of VOTES FOR WOMEN was sold out. Miss Anson spoke for us. Will all members please note the dates of the following meetings:—Saturday, September 25, Oakley Place, Old Kent Road, 6.30 p.m.; Wednesday, September 29, Tintagel Crescent, Goose Green, 7 p.m.; Saturday, October 2, The Fountain, Dulwich Village, 5.30 p.m. Women are wanted to sell papers in the streets. Will all those who have any time to spare during next week send their names at once to Miss Curtis, 14, Brunswick Square, Camberwell?—C. DAWSON.

CROYDON W.S.P.U.—Will our members do their best to be present with their friends at the Royal Albert Hall on October 7, tickets for which can be obtained from 79, Mayfield Road, Sandstead, by post till October 4, afterwards by post or on personal application?—G. CAMERON-SWAN.

FOREST GATE W.S.P.U.—Will friends keep October 11 free, as this is the date of our first indoor meeting after this holiday? Mrs. Eates has promised to speak for us. The open-air meeting this Friday will be held in High Street, Wanstead, at 7.45. Mrs. Whitten and Miss Hewitt are the speakers. The VOTES FOR WOMEN Corps leaves 129, Marlham Grove, Forest Gate, at 6 p.m., every Friday. Helpers welcomed.—M. E. SLEIGHT.

HAMPSTEAD W.S.P.U.—A general meeting has been arranged for September 28, at 8.30, at 11, Worsley Road. All members are requested to do their best to attend, as we have to make arrangements for our big meeting in November, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst will be our speaker, and Mrs. Saul Solomon, our president, will take the chair.—D. PEARSE.

HORNSEY W.S.P.U.—On Thursday we held a meeting for the first time at Hanley, and had a large audience. Miss Bonwick spoke and Miss May Kendal took the chair. On Saturday Miss Hume was our speaker and Miss Barry took the chair. Our next open-air meetings will be held on Saturday, 25th, at the Clock Tower, and on Thursday, 30th, at the corner of Hanley Road and Stroud Green Road, at 7 p.m. A committee meeting was held at Miss Jackson's on Friday, at which it was decided to divide the districts among the members for the purpose of working up the Albert Hall meeting and preparing the way for the Alexandra Palace Demonstration.—CLARE BROWNE.

ILFORD W.S.P.U.—Miss Naylor speaks for us on September 22 and Miss Margaret Barry on the 29th, opposite Ilford Station, at 7.30. Will all members willing to sell papers call at 68, Cranbrook Road, at 7 p.m., on Saturday evening? We want as many as possible.—ETHEL HASLAM, hon. sec.

KENSINGTON W.S.P.U.—An active campaign is being conducted in the district with the aid of Miss Corson in preparation for the Albert Hall meeting. Open-air meetings are being held, and canvassing is being done, for both of which help is needed. Our first Evening At Home was a great success last week. Miss Brackenbury and others making capital speeches. Next Tuesday, the 28th, at 8 p.m., the speakers at 2, Campden Hill Square, will be Mrs. Cameron Swan and Mrs. Eates. Business is growing brisk at the shop, where we stand in much need of a glass show case or bookcase with glass front in which to expose our goods. Will any kind friend give us one? We have some pretty soft leather slippers in the colours, and can now take orders for the new leather collars and cuffs. Grateful acknowledgments are due to the following for Jumble Sale parcels:—Mrs. Eden, Mrs. Mackworth, the Misses Hare, L. Vane, and Dugdale, and three anonymous donors. All similar gifts and offers of help will be thankfully received by the Hon. Sec., VOTES FOR WOMEN Shop, 143, Church Street, Kensington, W. Telephone, 2116 Western.—LOUISE M. EATES, hon. sec.

LEWISHAM W.S.P.U.—We had a big crowd on Blackheath on Sunday, September 19, when Mr. Rutter gave an account of the scenes in Bingley Hall, Birmingham. Miss Hewitt also spoke. The Blackheath Concert Hall meeting of October 13 was announced and handbills distributed. Weather permitting, these Sunday 3 p.m. meetings will be continued. Members and friends will be glad to learn that the agreement for our new shop (107, Lewisham High Street) has been signed, and that

the necessary repairs are in hand. Re our public meeting at the Blackheath Concert Hall on October 13, will all those who are willing to help as stewards or literature sellers communicate with Mrs. Bouvier, 32, Mount Pleasant Road, Lewisham? All those who are willing to take tickets on sale and return and do canvassing are requested to apply to Miss Billinghurst, 7, Oakcroft Road, Blackheath.—J. A. BOUVIER, hon. sec.

PUTNEY AND FULHAM W.S.P.U.—We are very anxious to increase the sale of the paper, and we ask those who can help in this way to call at 9, High Street, Putney, any day from 10 till 8. Meetings were held last week on Wednesday evening in Putney, when Miss Everitt took the chair and Miss Barry spoke; on Saturday evening, in Putney, when Miss Cutten took the chair and Mrs. Tanner spoke; and on Sunday afternoon, when Miss Sydney-Woolf acted as chairman and Miss Gillatt was the chief speaker. For the rest of the autumn we hope to hold open-air meetings every Monday evening in Fulham, on Saturday evenings in Putney, and on Sunday afternoons on Putney Heath at 3.30, as usual. Will members please note this, and support at least one meeting each week? On Sunday, September 26, Miss G. Brackenbury will speak on Putney Heath, and on Monday, September 27, Mrs. Tanner will speak for us at Waltham Green. Tickets for the Albert Hall can be obtained at 9, High Street, Putney, where a plan of the hall can be seen. Parcels for the jumble sale should be sent to Miss Cutten, Kelvedon Hall, Kelvedon Road, Fulham. A list should be enclosed in each parcel sent. The date of the sale will be announced as soon as sufficient articles have been received.—H. ROBERTS and L. CUTTEN, hon. secs.

RICHMOND AND KEW W.S.P.U.—At the meeting in Heron Court on Saturday, September 18, Miss Williams took the chair. Special mention was made of the Albert Hall Demonstration on October 7. After a capital address by Mrs. Carus-Wilson, Mrs. Archibold also spoke. On Sunday afternoon (19th), at Kew, Miss Phyllis Ayrton was the speaker. The meeting was well attended, a large number of visitors and residents being present. Miss Annette Jacobs was in the chair. Next Saturday (25th) Miss E. East will speak at 11.30 in Heron Court, and on Sunday (26th) at 3.30 there will be the usual meeting at Kew. Mrs. Nourse speaks for us on Saturday, October 2.—CLARA T. CLAYTON, hon. sec.

STREATHAM AND DISTRICT W.S.P.U.—Last Sunday Mrs. Penn Gaskell spoke for us, with Miss L. Tyson in the chair. The meeting was most satisfactory, and seventy copies of our paper were sold. As we may shortly be obliged to carry on our meetings indoors, we shall be glad to hear from anyone who may wish to attend such meetings, in order that notices may be sent to them. Next Sunday our speaker is to be Miss Naylor.—LEONORA TYSON.

WIMBLEDON W.S.P.U.—The Wimbledon Union held a successful meeting on the Common on Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Lorisignol took the chair, and Mrs. Knight, Mrs. Jones, and Mrs. Massy also spoke. Next Sunday Miss Barry will speak, with Mrs. Knight as chairman.—B. LORISIGNOL.

MEN'S LEAGUE FOR WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE. A demonstration organised by the Men's League for Women's Suffrage was held in Trafalgar Square on Saturday last. The speakers on the three platforms included Mrs. Despard, Miss Tyson, Miss Cecily Corbett and Messrs. H. Jacobs, Edward Carpenter, H. G. Chancellor, J. Clayton, Laurence Housman, J. M. Mitchell, and Josiah Oldfield, members of the Men's League. The audience, which numbered several thousand, was thoroughly sympathetic, and when the usual resolution was put to the meeting it was carried, at one platform unanimously, and at the two others with only four or five dissentients.

It is intended to carry on the Sunday meetings in Hyde Park and elsewhere as far into the autumn as the weather will allow.

SCOTTISH UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE UNION.

Members of this Union are carrying on two Scottish campaigns during September, one in the South, under Miss Frances Parker, and the other in the North, under Miss Chrystal Macmillan, M.A., B.Sc. Miss Parker has held meetings at Ayr, Prestwick and Troon, and goes on to Wigtown; while Miss Macmillan has had meetings at Dingwall, Ullapool, Lybster, Halkirk, Wick and Thurso. Miss Macmillan has had crowded halls in Shetland, and the people are asking when Mrs. Pankhurst is coming—a Scalloway man adding, "She is a brick." Will Suffragists write to Miss Macmillan, c/o Post Office, Brora, till Sept. 27.

TO MARION WALLACE DUNLOP. The Founder of the Hunger Strike.

Mid the vista of the years, All along the line of fame, Right hath conquered trembling fears Into life of burning flame; On hath led to Freedom's goal Noble and heroic soul.

Woman of the great, brave heart, Able both to dare and do, Love hath taught the better part, Love hath cast out fear from you. All thy comrades bless thy name, Cherish that immortal flame, Endurance—ever true.

Dear to thee is our great cause, Union firm shall show our right, Un'er submit to unjust laws, Lives like thine shame strong men's might; Oppression's bitter yoke withstood, Patriot true of Womanhood.

E. FOSTER.

HOLLOWAY.

(As it seemed to a recent prisoner.)

Gray and grim with the law of might, Clanking chain and steel gleam bright, Clash and clang of a close barred door, Echoing step on the distant floor; But hearts can be strong in the shadows gray That gather and deepen in Holloway.

Darkening night, and the startled cry Of a human soul in its agony; While echo rings with the pent-up woe Of captive cries of the long ago; And dumb hearts tremble, pale lips pray In the haunted gloom of Holloway.

Grind of steel in the rasping lock, Tramp of feet on the prison rock, Flutter of wings of the prison Dove, Pitter and Freedom, sorrow and love; For the Dove's soft note holds a thrilling sway On the bleeding hearts in Holloway.

Flashing gleam through the prison bar In silent night from a long-watched star; Wonder of dawn in the eastern sky, Message of love to the sleepless eye; For skies can be blue, though clouds be gray, And love runs riot in Holloway.

Love that dawns in a golden tide, Deep love of woman sanctified, That waits to break on the sorrow-land, When the gentle touch of a woman's hand Shall bid thy stones and towers gray Dissolve like mist. Sad Holloway.

LESLIE LAWLESS, in the Saturday Westminster.

They are slaves who fear to speak For the fallen and the weak; They are slaves who will not choose Hatred, scoffing, and abuse, Rather than in silence shrink From the truth they needs must think; They are slaves who dare not be In the right with two or three.—Lowell.

SUFFRAGETTES AT SCHOOL.

At an L.C.C. school which encourages debates among the elder girls, who choose their own subjects and carry on the discussion without any prompting from the teachers, a debate was recently held on the question of Suffragettes versus anti-Suffragettes. An interesting point recorded by the teacher, who was unbiassed, was that all the girls, with the exception of two, were in favour of the suffrage movement, and the arguments of the two antis proved to be lamentably inconclusive.

In the "Woman At Home" for October, an interesting article appears by Miss Marion Leslie, entitled "Distinguished Men who Support Woman Suffrage." Excellent portraits are given of Mr. Forbes Robertson, Mr. Bernard Shaw, the Earl of Lytton, Mr. Israel Zangwill, Mr. Laurence Housman, the Rev. R. J. Campbell, Mr. Jerome K. Jerome, and Mr. Pett Ridge, with a brief note on each. Other supporters of the Suffrage mentioned are the Hon. Sir J. Cockburn, K.C.M.G., ex-Premier for South Australia, and Sir Victor Horsley, F.R.S., F.R.C.S., M.D.

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