

# VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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## DEDICATION.

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.

## THE OUTLOOK.

History has been made in the woman's movement during the past week. Events have followed fast and thick upon one another, the most important of all being the arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Drummond on a charge of inciting to disorder. At the time of going to press the result of their trial is not yet known.

Meanwhile, on Tuesday evening the meetings in connection with which they are charged took place, and another blow was struck by the women for their vote. In accordance with the pre-arranged plan of the Women's Social and Political Union a vast crowd assembled around Parliament-square, and amid a surging mob women showed the courage and determination which are the characteristics of their sex. During the evening the House presented the appearance of a fortress in siege. In spite of the fact that an enormous mass of police were present, a woman succeeded in getting into the House, and as far as the Speaker's Chair (see page 38).

### No Light Matter.

This action by the women has not been undertaken lightly. It is their latest answer to the persistent refusal of the powers that be to listen to their reasonable and just demands. On Friday last Mr. Asquith replied to Mrs. Pankhurst, and stated that the Government did not intend to carry the Woman's Bill during the autumn. The women saw at once that no mere words could meet the situation. A handbill was widely circulated calling upon the people to assemble in great numbers and help the women to "rush" the House of Commons. The Press of the country realised the importance of this new action. They saw that this call of the women to the people was in the nature of a revolution, and was in itself far more important than the transactions which were likely to go on inside the House. Thus the *Morning Leader* wrote :—

To-day and to-morrow the most exciting part of the proceedings of Parliament will be the part that is not there. Outside demonstrations of unemployed and

suffragists are expected to act as a kind of orchestral overture before the curtain rises on the great party fight of the autumn, which begins on Wednesday.

The *Times* wrote :—

Besides all the preoccupations of their legislative programme, the Government have to sustain the embarrassment and inconvenience of the agitation of the women suffragists. In his refusal to be overborne by their importunity and unruliness, Mr. Asquith has unmistakably adopted the right course towards these ardent propagandaists; but the persistency of their personal attacks, and the degree of sympathy which they secure from ill-constructed persons, combine to make them a source of inevitable annoyance.

The police also issued a warning to the public, suggesting to them the danger of taking part in these proceedings. But the women remained firm in their resolve.

### A Charming Proposal.

How the enemies of Woman's Suffrage would like to treat the matter may be gathered from the following paragraph, which appeared in the *Evening Standard* for October 9 :—

If we lived, as many of us would like to do were the plan more feasible, under a truly benevolent despotism, the leaders of the noisy section of Suffragism would be here and now clapped into gaol and kept there without more ado during the despot's pleasure.

Fortunately it is not possible in England to override completely the common principles of justice and freedom which have been won in the past.

### Riot at Leeds.

On Saturday previous to the great demonstration on Tuesday a Woman's Suffrage riot had occurred in Leeds on the occasion of Mr. Asquith's visit to that town. The hall in which Mr. Asquith was speaking was surrounded by a mob, who, in spite of the utmost precautions of the police, nearly succeeded in obtaining an entrance into the meeting. Five women were arrested and brought before the magistrate on Monday. Four were called upon to find sureties and to be bound over to keep the peace. This they refused to do, and were sent to prison for five days. Mrs. Baines was remanded, and will come up again after this paper goes to press.

### Protests at Meetings.

The correspondence between Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mr. Lloyd George on the subject of his remarks at Swansea has elicited considerable comment from the Press. Owing to the great pressure upon our space we are unable to give this at any length, but the following extract from the *Saturday Review* will be of special interest to our readers :—

Mrs. Pethick-Lawrence scores over Mr. Lloyd George in their amusing correspondence on the interruption of meetings by women suffragists. Mr. Lloyd George made a particular charge, that the women were paid. It was an aggravation of the offence. Mrs. Lawrence shows that of the thirty women who protested at the Queen's Hall meeting only one had ever received any pay. At the Swansea meeting only one of the five women had ever had a salary, and she was not in receipt of it at the time. And suppose Mrs. Lawrence did object to Pro-Boer meetings being interrupted, is Mr. Lloyd George going to argue that a woman should be consistent? Or even a politician? Did he vote for a guillotine when he was in opposition? As to the right Mrs. Lawrence claims of interrupting public meetings, we do not know that it can be disproved. But Mr. Lloyd George's friends have also the right to throw her friends out.

Precisely, the women have never denied the right of Mr. Lloyd George to turn the women out of his meeting, but in view of the statements concerned in his letter, we wish to draw special attention to the meetings reported on page 42, from which it will be seen that two women were ejected from Mr. Asquith's meeting at Birmingham after having delayed questioning until the close of his speech, and to the case of the woman who was ejected from a meeting at Dundee before the meeting began, because she was suspected of being a Suffragette. Several very successful protests have been made during the week. Among those was the protest made at Mr. Gladstone's meeting at Lincoln, a special account of which we give on page 42. It will be seen that, contrary to the reports in the daily Press, the women were very well received by the people, and on the following day were listened to by an attentive and sympathetic crowd. Other protests were those at Mr. Buxton's meeting in Birmingham, where, as women were excluded, men took up the battle-cry "Votes for women."

**N.W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

Owing to the arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Drummond, all engagements which these women have made must be considered held in abeyance until their fate is known.

**The At Homes.**

Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN are reminded that the At Homes held every afternoon in the Queen's Hall from three to five are public, women being specially invited, and they are requested to make them known among their friends. There will be an organ recital by Mrs. Layton, F.R.C.O., who has kindly undertaken the position of honorary organist to the N.W.S.P.U., and speeches will be delivered by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and such leaders of the movement as are not occupying cells in Holloway Gaol. Owing to the very large number of N.W.S.P.U. meetings which have to be announced at the Queen's Hall, the committee desire it to be understood that no handbills, announcements of meetings, &c., can be given out at the hall except those specially authorised.

**The Albert Hall Meeting.**

Only a fortnight now remains before the great Albert Hall meeting on Thursday, October 29. It is specially important that there should be a full quota of stewards. In the event of Mrs. Drummond being unable to take charge of the arrangements, they will be in the hands of Jessie Kenney, 4, Clements Inn, W.C., and those able to help are urgently called upon to communicate with her as soon as possible. As several of the permanent seat-holders of the hall have kindly sent us some of their seats for use, we are able to inform friends that these can now be obtained. As they are some of the best seats in the stalls, they should be written for at once, price 5s. each. The meeting is one primarily for women, but as a great number of applications have been received from men, it has been arranged that some of the 5s. seats will be available for them. The prices of the other parts in the hall are 2s. 6d. for the arena, 1s. for the balcony and orchestra, and 6d. for the gallery and upper orchestra. There are also boxes to be disposed of at various prices.

**"Votes for Women" Bound Volume.**

The first year of VOTES FOR WOMEN is now being bound up into a volume, which can be obtained from the Publisher, 4, Clements Inn, price 10s. (post free, 10s. 6d.). The volume includes the seven monthly and 22 weekly numbers, and also a specially prepared index. The binding is in the colours of the Union, and on the outside cover is a special design by Miss Sylvia Pankhurst.

Copies of the index can be obtained separately, price 2d. (post free, 2½d.), and readers' own copies can be bound, with the index, for the sum of 6s., or 6s. 6d. together with postage.

**Christmas Publications.**

The Woman's Press are pleased to be able to announce that they are publishing shortly a calendar for the year 1909, for which Miss Kerr has kindly arranged a series of Shelley quotations. The calendar will have a frontispiece of the Women's Social and Political Union, including coloured medallion, and can be obtained from the Woman's Press, price 1s. each.

A Christmas card, beautifully prepared from Mr. Laurence Housman's famous banner (which took part in the Hyde Park Demonstration), will also be on sale in November. Single cards will be 6d. each; larger quantities can be obtained as follows:—25 for 10s. 6d.; 50 for £1; 100 for £1 17s. 6d. A plain Christmas card in the colours of the Union is also being prepared, particulars of which will be announced later.

**Sir Charles McLaren, M.P., on the Suffragettes.**

Speaking at Cardiff last week, Sir Charles McLaren said the part which the Suffragettes had taken, by going to prison to suffer the penalties of the law, and by deciding to oppose every member in favour of the present Government, until the Government legislated, were very powerful arguments that had carried influence at many of the elections which were claimed as victories for Tariff Reform. He deplored the fact that the apathy of Liberals had sent these active women to the other camp. (Hear, hear.)—From the *South Wales Daily News*.

**PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.**

Up to October 24 (as far as at present arranged).

October	Wood Green, Small Unity Hall, Bristol, Vestry Hall, Pennywell Road	Bowes Park W.S.P.U. Miss Annie Kenney	2.45—4.15 3.30 p.m.
Thur. 15	Wolverhampton, At Home, Bath Assembly Rooms	Miss Keevil	3.30—5
	Manchester, Theatre Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios	Mrs. Martel Committee Chelsea W.S.P.U.	4.30 p.m. 4.30 p.m.
	Bristol, Literary Debating Society, St. James' Square	Miss Annie Kenney	7.30 p.m.
	Manchester, Alexandra Park Gates	Mrs. Martel	7.30 p.m.
	Hornsey, 7, Priory Gardens	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
	Manchester, West Kirby Debating Society	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
	London, At Home, Portman Rooms, Dorset Street	Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Birmingham, Debate, Norton Memorial Institute	Miss Keevil	8 p.m.
	Brixton, White Horse, Angell Rd.	Miss Ogston	8 p.m.
Fri. 16	Gateshead-on-Tyne, Dinner Hour Mtg., High Level Bdge. Notting Hill Gate, Open-air Mtg. Wandsworth, East Hall	Miss New Miss Naylor Miss Keevil	12.15 p.m. 7 p.m. 7.30 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, Harborne Institute	Miss Keevil	8 p.m.
	Glasgow, Drawing-room Meeting, Spring Gardens	Miss Conolan	8 p.m.
	Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Mrs. Martel	8 p.m.
	Liverpool	Mrs. Martel	8 p.m.
	Clifton, Hannah More Hall	Miss Annie Kenney	10.30
	Chelsea, Quizzers' Literary and Debating Society	Miss Isabel Seymour	10.30
Sat. 17	Manchester, Stevenson Square	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Mrs. Martel	3 p.m.
	Gateshead-on-Tyne, Windmill Hill	Miss New	3 p.m.
	Reading, At Home, Palmer Hall, West Street	..	3.30 p.m.
	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath St.	Miss Conolan	3.30 p.m.
	Birmingham, Monument Road	Dr. Helen Jones	7.30 p.m.
	Reading, Magic Lantern Lecture, Palmer Hall	..	7.30 p.m.
	Gateshead-on-Tyne, Haymarket	Miss New	8 p.m.
Sun. 18	Brixton, Discussion Forum	Miss Macaulay	3 p.m.
	Clapham Common	Miss Ogston and others	3 p.m.
	Birmingham, Small Heath Park Gates	Miss Keevil	3 p.m.
Mon. 19	Birmingham, Women's Co-operative Guild, Coventry Road	Miss Keevil	3 p.m.
	Bristol, Victoria Rooms	Miss Annie Kenney	3.30 p.m.
	Bowden, Assembly Rooms	Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Adela Pankhurst	3.30 p.m.
	Brondebury, St. George's Literary Society	Miss Evelyn Sharp	3.30 p.m.
	Westbourne Grove, Open-air Meeting	..	3.30 p.m.
	London, At Home, Queen's Hall	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	3—5
	Manchester, Alexander Park	Mrs. Martel	3 and 7.30
	Women's Meeting	..	..
	Birmingham, At Home, 14, Ethel Street	Miss Keevil	7.30 p.m.
	Birmingham, Women's Co-operative Society, Bournville	Dr. Helen Jones	8 p.m.
	Chelsea, World's End	Miss Canning, Miss Barry	8 p.m.
	Fulham, Debate, St. Augustine's Hall	Miss Naylor	8.30 p.m.
Tues. 20	Scotland, Bridge of Allan	Mrs. Pankhurst—Chair, Miss Conolan	2.30 p.m.
	Kensington, Drawing-room Mtg. Chelsea, Studio Meeting, 30, Tite Street	Miss Evelyn Sharp Miss Macaulay	5.30 p.m.
	Bristol, Men's League Meeting, Canon Talbot's House	Miss Annie Kenney	7.30 p.m.
	Bowden	Mrs. Martel	7.30 p.m.
	Birmingham, King's Norton	Dr. Helen Jones	8 p.m.
	Cons. Debating Society	..	..
	Chelsea, Sloane Square	Miss Naylor, Miss Haig	8 p.m.
	Glasgow, City Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Conolan—Chair, Mrs. David Greig	8 p.m.
	Leeds, Presbyterian Church	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
	South Molton Street, W., Work-girls' Meeting	Miss Ogston	8 p.m.
Wed. 21	Newcastle, At Home, Crosby's Cafe, Northumberland Street	Miss New	3—5 and 8—10
	Kensington, At Home, The Helensburgh, Victoria Hall	Committee Kensington W.S.P.U.	4—6
	Manchester, Eccles Cross	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Conolan	8 p.m.
	Old Trafford	Mrs. Martel	8 p.m.
	Chelsea, 4, Trafalgar Studios	Committee Chelsea W.S.P.U.	8—9.30
	Barnes, Byfield Hall, At Home	Miss Florence Haig, Miss Jessie Stephenson	8—10
Thur. 22	Wood Green, Small Unity Hall	Bowes Park W.S.P.U.	2.45—4.15
	Glasgow, Burgh Hall, Hillhead	Mrs. Pankhurst, Chair: Miss Conolan	2.30 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, At Home, The Baths Assembly Rooms	Miss Keevil	3.30 p.m.
	Manchester, Co-operative Guild	Mrs. Martel	7.30 p.m.
	Edinburgh University, Women Students' Union	Mrs. Pankhurst	7.30 p.m.
	London, At Home, Portman Rooms, Dorset Street	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Manchester, Gorton	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
	Margate, Pioneer Room, Dalby Road	Miss Evelyn Sharp	4.30 p.m.
Fri. 23	Knightsbridge, Open-air Mtg. Edinburgh, Queen's Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Conolan. Chair: Miss Milne Chapman	7 p.m. 8 p.m.
	Hendon	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Clifton, Hannah More Hall	Miss Annie Kenney	8 p.m.
	Manchester, Hollinwood Chamber Street	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8 p.m.
	Fulham, Walham Green	Miss Naylor, Miss W. Mayo	8 p.m.
	Manchester, At Home	Mrs. Martel	8—10
Sat. 24	Manchester, Stevenson Square	Manchester Members	3 p.m.
	Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath St.	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Conolan	3.30 p.m.
	Birmingham, Monument Road	Miss Keevil	7.30 p.m.
	Glasgow, Paisley Good Temp-lars' Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Conolan—Chair, Mrs. Craig	7.30 p.m.
	Newcastle, Haymarket	Miss New	8 p.m.

**IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.**

London, Albert Hall (Meeting)	Oct. 29
Manchester, Free Trade Hall	Nov. 25

**THE HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.**

By SYLVIA PANKHURST. XXIX.—The Early Work of the W.S.P.U.

The efforts of the W.S.P.U. were at once directed towards popularising the question of women's enfranchisement, and bringing it vividly before the masses of the people.

During the two or three years previous to 1905 both Christabel and Mrs. Pankhurst had devoted a great part of their time to speaking on votes for women to working-class audiences, and Christabel Pankhurst had addressed trade unions and trades councils in all parts of the country. After the formation of the W.S.P.U. this work was carried on with increasing vigour, and large numbers of open-air meetings were also held.

In the spring of 1904, mainly owing to the W.S.P.U. propaganda, the annual conference of the Independent Labour Party instructed the administrative council to prepare a Bill for the enfranchisement of women upon the same terms as men. The N.A.C. decided to adopt the Women's Enfranchisement Bill, or as it was originally called, the Women's Disabilities Removal Bill, which had first passed its second reading in 1870. Mr. Keir Hardie was asked to introduce the Bill, and agreed to do so, but this eventually was done for him in his absence by Mr. Will Crooks, on one of the last few days of the Session.

When the Session of 1905 opened, Mrs. Pankhurst and a few other members of the Union attended the Lobby of the House of Commons, and strove to induce members of Parliament to ballot for the Bill.

How wonderful it is in these days of vigorous, hopeful, enthusiastic work to look back upon that dreary and dismal time, not yet four years ago! How difficult it then was to arouse women from their apathy upon this question. How well-nigh impossible to get them to come down to the House. Old Suffragists had lost heart and energy in the long struggle, whilst new Suffragists did not understand Parliamentary procedure, and could not be made to see the reason for being there.

On the day when the result of the ballot was declared, Mrs. Pankhurst and the present writer were the only two women in the Lobby. We at once sent in for Mr. Keir Hardie, who was responsible for the Bill. He told us that he himself had been unsuccessful, and that of the first fifteen members who had secured places in the ballot, all but five had definitely informed him that they intended to introduce other Bills. The remaining five members were not in the House, and it was therefore necessary to find them at once, and discover whether they would be willing to give their places to the Women's Bill.

Finally we got into communication with all of them, and they all said "No," with the exception of Mr. Bamford Slack, who held the fourteenth place. All the available first places having been taken, the Women's Enfranchisement Bill was set down as second order of the day for Friday, May 12.

When May 12 arrived a great gathering of women of all classes had assembled in the House of Commons. The women were accompanied by Mrs. Nellie A. Martel, of Australia, who had helped to win the franchise there, and had afterwards been run as a candidate for the Commonwealth Parliament, when she had polled over twenty thousand votes.

From twelve o'clock the women waited, and as the afternoon wore on it became known that no division would be taken upon Women's Suffrage, because its opponents were of set purpose prolonging the discussion upon a small measure providing that carts should carry a light behind as well as before.

The probability of this happening had from the first been foreseen by those of experience in the movement, and the W.S.P.U. had put forward the most strenuous efforts to prevent it. The promoters of the Roadway Lighting Bill had been seen and urged to withdraw this measure. Resolutions had been sent to the Government asking them to give special facilities for the Bill, and on this being refused attempts were made to arrange a deputation to the Prime Minister, Mr. Balfour. These also were unsuccessful, and finally Mrs. Pankhurst sent a message to Mr. Balfour that if facilities for the passing into law of the Women's Enfranchisement Bill were not granted, the W.S.P.U. would work actively against the Government at the next General Election.

At last the expected happened, the Speaker refused to accept the closure, and the Women's Bill was "talked out."

The news came to the crowd of angry women in the Lobby,

and when the order for strangers to leave the House was given, many of them seemed disinclined to go.

Mrs. Wolstenholme Elmy, Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Martel, and a few others conferred hastily together, and Mrs. Pankhurst suggested that they should hold a meeting of protest outside.

On the pavement just in front of the strangers' entrance the women gathered, and Mrs. Elmy, the oldest worker in the suffrage movement, began to speak. Almost at once the police ordered the crowd away, and they therefore moved to the foot of the Richard I. statue, beside the House of Lords. Mrs. Elmy was helped on to the plinth of the statue by Mrs. Pankhurst, and again tried to speak, but again the police intervened, and thinking that all further speaking might be prevented, Mrs. Pankhurst hastily put the resolution, and it was carried.

The police inspector now said that he would take the women to a place where their meeting might be held. "Very well," said Mrs. Pankhurst, "Mrs. Martel, who is a free woman with a vote, shall lead us," and so the procession, which had been joined by one only of the friendly members of Parliament, Mr. Keir Hardie, formed up and marched after the police to Broad Sanctuary, close by the gates of Westminster Abbey. Here a further crowd soon collected and helped to carry the resolution condemning the procedure of the House of Commons which had made it possible for a small minority of opponents to talk out the Women's Bill, and calling upon the Government to rescue it now and carry it into law.

The meeting dissolved, vowing vengeance upon the Government if this should not be done. The sequel we all know now, for by the next General Election Mr. Balfour and his Cabinet had resigned and the opposition that had been designed for them was directed against their Liberal successors.

But a few short months remained between this time and Sir Edward Grey's meeting on that memorable October 13.

After hearing Mrs. Pankhurst and Christabel Pankhurst speak at Oldham, Annie Kenney, and later her sisters Jessie, Jenny, and Nellie, had also joined the Union, and during the summer the Pankhurst and the Kenney sisters had held scores of Women's Suffrage meetings upon the wakes grounds in the Lancashire towns and villages.

**The Release of the Prisoners.**

And now I go back to the two brave prisoners in Strangways Gaol, Manchester.

On the Saturday night after the trial a meeting of protest had been held in Stevenson's-square, Manchester, and to welcome them on their release a great demonstration was organised in the Free Trade Hall itself.

It was but a week since the Liberal leaders had looked down upon them, from this same platform, and had silently watched them being dragged with violence out of this very hall. But now, as the two women entered, the audience rose and raised their hats, and waved their handkerchiefs, and greeted them with cheers. Christabel Pankhurst and Annie Kenney did not speak of their imprisonment. We know that they had been treated as belonging to the third and lowest class of criminals, that they had been dressed in prison clothes, fed on skilly and brown bread, and kept in solitary confinement in a narrow cell both day and night. They had attended service with the other prisoners in the chapel, and with them had gone out to exercise in the prison yard; they had performed the daily routine of prison tasks, and losing their own names, answered only to the number of their cell. Those things we know, but they refused to speak of them, and strove rather to concentrate all attention upon the cause of the enfranchisement of women, for which they had been willing to endure all.

When Christabel Pankhurst began to speak of the disturbance which had taken place upon the previous Friday, there were cries of protest from a number of Liberals who disagreed with her, but she stopped them saying, "I am sure you want to hear my version of it." When she had finished the resolution calling for the immediate extension of the franchise to women was carried by an overwhelming majority, and a resolution commending the bravery of the women's action, and condemning the behaviour of those who had refused to answer their question was carried with tremendous enthusiasm.

(To be continued.)

## SIEGE OF CLEMENTS INN.

### ARREST OF MRS. PANKHURST, MISS CHRISTABEL PANKHURST, AND MRS. DRUMMOND.

We shall not be at the office, 4, Clements Inn, until six o'clock to-day, but at that hour we shall all three be entirely at your disposal.

So ran the note to the police which Miss Pankhurst had dispatched on the morning of Tuesday, October 13, and at six o'clock the police entering the office found Mrs. Pankhurst and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and their arrest took place. Mrs. Drummond was also arrested at the same time.

During the whole day Clements Inn had been besieged. The summons to appear at Bow-street had been disregarded, and the police, convinced that the women were in the building, kept watch at both entrances. The secret of their retreat was well kept, and they were enabled to transact their business until the appointed hour.

Events have moved quickly during the last few days, and a new chapter in the history of the women's fight for the vote has been begun.

First came the reply to Mrs. Pankhurst's letter to the Prime Minister, asking whether it is the intention of the Government to carry the Women's Enfranchisement Bill into law this autumn. It was as follows:—

Dear Madam,—I am desired by the Prime Minister to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 1, and to inform you in reply that the Government have already announced that during the remainder of the Session they cannot give facilities to any private Member's Bill which is not of a wholly uncontroversial character.

I am, your obedient servant,  
(Signed) VAUGHAN NASH.

On Sunday a mass meeting, at which some thousands of persons were present, took place in Trafalgar-square, and Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, "General" Drummond, and others spoke from the base of the Nelson Column, across the plinth of which stretched a banner, reading:—

"Votes for Women. Come to the House of Commons on the 13th at 7.30 p.m."

The following report of the meeting appeared in the *Daily Telegraph* next day:—

"Men and Women, Help the Suffragists to Rush the House of Commons on Tuesday Evening, October 13, at 7.30." So ran the exhortation on the tiny handbill which was freely circulated amongst the audience at a meeting held yesterday afternoon in Trafalgar-square, in connection with the National Women's Social and Political Union. When the proceedings opened, shortly after three o'clock, probably 1,000 persons had gathered on that side of the Nelson Monument which faces the National Gallery, and when, an hour later, the meeting was in full swing and the Government was being freely and fluently castigated for its cowardice in shirking the demand for "Votes for Women," the gathering had grown to quite two or three times its original dimensions. Mindful no doubt of their experiences a week previously, the police had a large force of men upon the scene, but the whole proceedings, which lasted about an hour and a half, were of the most orderly character, and the intervention of the arm of the law proved unnecessary.

Mrs. Pankhurst, the leading speaker, explained that, being dissatisfied with the reply which Mr. Asquith had returned to their inquiry whether the Government meant to grant facilities for the passage of Mr. Stanger's Bill, they meant on Tuesday evening to hold a meeting in Caxton Hall, and send therefrom a deputation to the House of Commons. Mr. Asquith had informed them that the Government would not grant facilities to private members' Bills of a contentious character; but she maintained that as all parties in the House of Commons had placed Women's Suffrage on their programme, Mr. Stanger's Bill could not properly be described as contentious. Whether, she added, their deputation would reach the House of Commons she could not tell; but it would make a gallant attempt to get there.

Mrs. Drummond besought her audience to consider the fairness and justice which lay behind the demand for votes for women.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst declared that their cause was on the verge of winning and that it only wanted the finishing touches. (Laughter.) Already they had tried to march to the Houses of Parliament, and not without result; because on June 30 they succeeded in driving Mr. Asquith underground. (Laughter.) Let them play up on the 13th, and she dared say that would be the settlement of the struggle. Let the men help the women to push their way into the House of Commons. The men need not be afraid of arrest. The women would take the lead. (Laughter.) It might be that some day, side by side with the statue of Cromwell outside Parliament, would be a statue of a suffragist. (Laughter.)

During the week meetings had been held as usual, and the work of the N.W.S.P.U. had gone steadily on.

On Thursday Mrs. Pethick Lawrence spoke to a large and attentive audience in the Hampstead Conservatoire; on Friday Miss Christabel Pankhurst and "General" Drummond spoke at Battersea Town Hall; other meetings were held on Saturday, and a number of copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold by members of the N.W.S.P.U. along the route of the Marathon Race.

On Sunday evening meetings were held at Blackheath, Peckham, Hammersmith, Woolwich, and elsewhere; in fact, the educational work of the N.W.S.P.U. went on just as usual, speakers and audiences alike unconscious of the new phase upon which the movement was about to enter.

#### At the House of Commons.

While the Votes for Women kite flew bravely over the House of Commons, the great event of Tuesday was advertised all Monday afternoon from the deck of a specially chartered steam-launch, which, with banners and posters, steamed slowly up and down the river, attracting crowds of people on all the bridges. Starting from Chelsea Pier, from noon until five o'clock she steamed to and fro, visiting Putney, where thousands of people had collected to witness the sculling match.

On Monday afternoon an immense audience gathered at Queen's Hall. Many had come for the first time; many others were led thither by a brief announcement in the evening papers, which "had been informed by an official of the Women's Social and Political Union that an important announcement concerning a fresh development would be made at a meeting of that body to be held at the Queen's Hall this afternoon."

Other Monday afternoon At Homes have been crowded; others have been enthusiastic; but in Monday's gathering there was a new atmosphere. *Something had happened*, and the women wanted to know what it was. The stirring words of the new Marseillaise were sung to the organ's accompaniment, the audience standing. Madame Marian Mackenzie sang "Oh, dry those tears," and then Mrs. Pethick Lawrence announced from the chair that a new development in the situation had taken place.

#### The Government's Invitation.

Mrs. Pankhurst, says the *Daily Telegraph*, stated that the Government had this afternoon invited three of them to meet a representative of the Government in another place. (Great cheers.) "Now, while I am speaking to you," she continued, "the Government's representatives are expecting us at Bow-street, but we have decided that our engagement to meet you here to-day is of greater importance to this movement than the Government's peremptory invitation to meet them in Bow-street. So we are here, and we shall not go to Bow-street until they come and take us." (Loud cheers.)

Proceeding, Mrs. Pankhurst said that the Government representative wanted them to explain why they issued an invitation to the men and women of London to go to Parliament-square tomorrow and assist the women to get into the House of Commons. They had so invited the public to see fair play between the Government and the women's deputation. Their previous deputation of voteless women had been treated like those of common street brawlers. They proposed to see this time whether the people's will would not manifest itself sufficiently to enable the women to get inside, and they meant to get there if they possibly could. The Government was going through the final stages of the Children's Bill, and it was high time they were inside the House, for it was woman's work.

Before leaving them—for how long she did not know—she would say that every one of them was to rally round Mrs. Lawrence and the committee, so that when she returned from prison she would find the movement had gone on growing stronger every day. Though going to the darkness of a prison cell for it might be weeks, months, or years, she bade them be of good cheer. They were going on to victory, and they would use their political power to make the world a better place than it had ever been. (Cheers.)

Mrs. Drummond said that the reason they had issued the inflammatory handbills was because they trusted the people, which was more than the Government did. She urged them all to go on with the work of organisation in her absence. They would find it easy, as everything was ready, and she hoped that there

would be two or three more "generals" awaiting her when she left Holloway. The Government would find it was not the leaders who mattered; it was the followers.

#### Remarkable Language.

Miss Pankhurst said that everything would take place exactly as had been arranged. They were going to get into the House or know the reason why. How little the Government understood women if they thought that by grabbing three of the leaders they could dishearten the rest. Instead, they had only excited them to further action.

"In the event of our non-appearance at Bow-street, a warrant will be issued for our arrest. We are absolutely indifferent to the consequences, for our organisation is run on such lines that the absence of any individual cannot hinder its work. We are prepared for any sentence—weeks, months, years—and we refuse to be frightened. To-morrow's demonstration will come off whether we are at Westminster or at Holloway."

A sum of £200 was collected at the meeting, including several sums of £20 and £10.

#### The Summonses.

The following is the wording of the summonses served on Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Drummond:—

Information has been laid this day by the Commissioner of Police for that you in the month of October in the year 1908 were guilty of conduct likely to provoke a breach of the peace by initiating and causing to be initiated and publishing and causing to be published a certain handbill calling upon and inciting the public to do a certain wrongful and illegal act—viz., to rush the House of Commons at 7.30 p.m. on October 13 inst.

You are, therefore, hereby summoned to appear before the Court of Summary Jurisdiction, sitting at the Bow-street Police Station on Monday, October 12, at the hour of 3.30, to answer to the said information, and to show cause why you and each of you should not be ordered to find sureties for good behaviour.

(Signed) H. CURTIS BENNETT.

#### THE STORY OF THE ARRESTS.

##### By One of the Office Staff.

We of the staff at Clement's Inn highly applauded the action of our leaders in making the mountain come to Mahomet instead of going meekly to the mountain! We knew, of course, that the summonses had been served; we saw the calm and cheerful way in which they received them; we—those of us who could be spared—heard their speeches at Queen's Hall on Monday afternoon, and shared the thrill that went through that great audience when Mrs. Pethick Lawrence said, "The warrant officers are outside!"

Voices cried out round us that if the police came the women would not let them take the three, but we knew that no demonstration must take place inside the hall. A sensation of relief came when a second message arrived: the summonses had been adjourned until Tuesday morning.

All day on Tuesday we knew that they were—somewhere! Where, we did not know! But of the fact that they would appear at six o'clock we were absolutely certain. Suffragettes do not break their word. The newspaper that said they had promised to obey the summons and had not obeyed it, was mistaken; they made no such promise. If they had, they would have been at Bow Street and not at Queen's Hall on Monday afternoon.

It was not easy to go through the day's duties quite as usual. The air was thick with coming events, and our eyes turned frequently to the clock, almost wishing for six to arrive, so that the suspense might end.

At a quarter to six our printer's "devil" brought the news that a "copper" was downstairs. The news did not excite us. Too many "excursions and alarms" had already taken place for that!

A few moments later Mrs. Pankhurst, Christabel Pankhurst, and General Drummond walked calmly into the outer office. We went out to greet them. They were dressed for a journey, and the police officer was with them, as well as a detective in plain clothes.

First the Press insisted on photographing them, and the officer had unwillingly to be included in the picture. The flash revealed their faces—brave and cheerful, ready to face anything for the sake of the cause they have fought so long and strenuously.

Then the adjourned summons was read, the officer stumbling over the small print, and evidently glad when it was done.

Good-byes were said; we followed the three out into the corridor; some of us flew downstairs to be ready to meet them again in the entrance hall. We found a crowd waiting to cheer them, and they departed to the accompaniment of applause and cheers.

As we go to Press we learn that bail was refused; that they were to spend the night in the cells; and that a proposal that they should be searched was absolutely refused by Mrs. Pankhurst, and abandoned. In the cells they sang the Marseillaise and other Suffragette songs.

#### ROUND THE HOUSE.

All police leave having been stopped within the whole of the metropolitan area, from early on Tuesday drafts of men were pouring steadily into the central district.

At midday the crowds of sightseers were rapidly growing, and by one o'clock cordons were drawn around Parliament-square, wheeled traffic alone being allowed through.

Towards dusk the roadways in the vicinity of the House were cleared, everyone was kept strictly to the pavements on the side furthest from the House, and double cordons were drawn so as to prevent any approach at all to the House except by members.

Caxton Hall was surrounded by foot police, and literally thousands of police, foot and mounted, were in or around Parliament-square, a humiliating sight for the people's representatives driving in or out.

Shortly before seven o'clock an omnibus drove down Parliament-street bearing on top a party of Suffragettes, who waved their colours and addressed the crowd. Roars of cheers greeted them, and the crowd rushed after the omnibus shouting words of encouragement. Immediately the mounted police charged into the crowd, and broke it up, being greeted with hoots and groans.

From that time the appearance of any group of Suffragettes was the signal for an outburst of cheering.



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## SUFFRAGETTE AT THE BAR OF THE HOUSE.

UNPARALLELED SCENE IN THE COMMONS—WOMAN SEIZED AND PLACED UNDER ARREST.

An unparalleled event took place to-night in the House of Commons.

At eight o'clock the House was suddenly startled by the appearance of a woman at the Bar of the House.

She flung her arms into the air and shouted:—

"Leave off discussing the children and talk about the women."

The House, it may be mentioned, was discussing the Children's Bill at the time.

Mr. Rutherford, who was speaking, sat down, and there was a rush of officials and members in the direction of the woman, who still stood shouting.

She was suddenly seized by the Deputy Serjeant-at-Arms and two constables, and was bodily carried into the members' lobby, where she was placed under arrest.

The incident created great excitement for a moment or two, and the strangers in the gallery arose in a body and endeavoured to catch a glimpse of the intruder over the front of the gallery.

The suddenness of her appearance, and the rapidity with which the officials acted, prevented any of them seeing her.

The Speaker sat unmoved, and the House within a moment or two had resumed its normal aspect, although members trooped out to ascertain who the woman was who had succeeded in evading the extraordinary force and vigilance of the police.

### Later.

The lady who entered the House of Commons was Mrs. Travers Symons.

She sent in a card to Mr. Idris, M.P. for the Flint district, who introduced her.

She has, it is said, been acting as private secretary to Mr. Keir Hardie.

Another account says that she rushed up the floor of the House and a struggle ensued in front of the table.

Mr. Idris had no sooner escorted her into the inner lobby when, to the consternation of the officials, she headed direct for the Chamber, and passed through the double set of doors.

[Mrs. Symons was subsequently released.]

From the "Evening News."

## IN CAXTON HALL.

The meeting in Caxton Hall was heralded by an invasion of a band of young men who sought to break it up. An appeal to them from Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who occupied the chair, sufficed, however, to induce them to withdraw.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence began by saying that the women would be lacking in spirit if they did not go to try and see Mr. Asquith. "We have a bit of bull-dog tenacity," she added, "and a bit of the good old bulldog breed in us. How are we going to use it?" The Government thought that by arresting the leaders of the movement they were going to crush it, but though their leaders were arrested they were more determined than ever.

The following deputation of ladies was then appointed to go to the House:—

Mrs. F. Williams	Miss Ada Wright
Miss G. E. Llewellyn	Miss Flatman
Miss Wallace Dunlop	Mrs. Monck Mason
Mrs. Shafto Greene	Miss Ansell
Miss C. Turle	Mrs. Hicks
	Mrs. Tanner

They set out on their way, the meeting passing the following resolution:—

This meeting of women expresses its deep indignation at the continued refusal of the Liberal Government to give political freedom to women, and demands that facilities shall be accorded to Mr. Stanger's Women's Enfranchisement Bill becoming law during the present Session.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence announced the receipt of the following message, signed by Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Mrs. Drummond:—

Make strong protest to-night against injustice of Liberal Government.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence then appealed to the women to go out and join in the work of helping the deputation to reach the House. Acting on this advice a number of women left the hall.

## THE DEPUTATION.

Shortly after half-past seven the deputation prepared to leave Caxton Hall. They were escorted into Victoria-street by a large body of police. Before getting far their ranks were broken up, and as fast as the women flung themselves against the cordons they were seized and thrown back into the crowd.

The police were evidently determined to arrest no one at all if they could possibly avoid it.

Several of the women got through the cordons and made rushes across the cleared spaces, the crowd pressing forward after them, and cheering enthusiastically. The hurrying of the women back to the crowd was followed frequently by charges or manoeuvres of the mounted men.

Nothing could exceed the enthusiastic friendliness of the crowd. At 7.45 the first arrest was effected.

Two of the women tried to get through the police cordon drawn across the Whitehall entrance to Parliament-square, and were taken into custody.

A few minutes later a roar of cheering came from the direction of Victoria-street, and a minute later a white-robed Suffragette was marched across Parliament-square to Cannon-row, crying, "Votes for Women," and "Down with Asquith!"

The police have admitted that by ten o'clock there were over 5,000 foot police on duty, as well as the mounted men, and hundreds of men in the Houses of Parliament, whilst under the arches between the House of Lords and the House of Commons there were in lines, as at a military camp, a large number of horses tethered in readiness for emergency.

Great perturbation was caused at one time by the rumour that an attempt was to be made on the terrace of the House, and 200 policemen were placed in ambush on the terrace, while on the river itself three river launches were in patrol.

10.15 p.m.

The crowds have gradually been driven back in every direction a half-mile or more from the House. Cordons are drawn every few hundred yards along the Embankment up to Charing Cross Railway Bridge, and also along Whitehall, and down Victoria-street; also across Horseguards-avenue and Whitehall-place. A double line holds the Charing Cross end of Whitehall, and the wheeled traffic is being diverted to Piccadilly and over the bridges to South London.

The police are now driving the crowds back into the Strand.

A desert has been made over an area extending for half a mile or more from the House.

## AT BOW STREET.

(Tuesday Morning.)

Mr. Curtis Bennett took his seat at 11.20, and Mr. Muskett immediately announced that the women were not present.

"Call them," said the magistrate.

Whereupon the court police officer called in a court where there was not a woman present the three names—Emmeline Pankhurst, Christabel Pankhurst, and Flora Drummond.

There was no response.

"Call them below," said the magistrate.

The officer left, and the court, consisting of magistrate, solicitors, police, and Press, waited for several minutes in hopeful silence.

The officer returned and announced that his mission had been futile.

Inspector Jarvis then entered the witness-box.

"Did you last afternoon," asked Mr. Muskett, "serve upon each of the three ladies notices to attend here this morning at eleven o'clock?"—"I did, sir."

Where did you serve them?—At Queen's Hall, just at the finish of the meeting, about 5.20.

Were all the ladies there?—Yes, I saw them all together. I asked if they would be likely to turn up, and they said they did not know until they had consulted about it.

After Inspector Jarvis had given evidence of the serving of the original summons, Mr. Muskett formally applied for the issue of a warrant for the arrest of the three women.

The magistrate at once agreed.

"Evening News."

FROM THE "EVENING STANDARD" (Night Extra).

Woman found in underground passage near House, and when detected made a rush for entrance, and was arrested.

[We understand the woman referred to is Miss Winifred Bray.]

## TEN O'CLOCK.

As we close for Press we learn that the following were arrested and taken to Cannon Row and Rochester Row Police Stations:—

**Gertrude M. Ansell**, who has earned her living since the death of her father (a scientific man). She soon became convinced, through experience, that the economic position of women would never be satisfactory without political freedom, and joined the N.W.S.P.U. soon after the opening of the militant campaign.

**Elizabeth Billing**.—Miss Billing is a new recruit. It is only a week since she made her first speech as chairman of a street-corner meeting. In a recent letter she says:—"My great regret is to have wasted many valuable years while others have stood the brunt of the battle."

**Mabel Capper**.—When, in 1905, all Manchester was condemning the action of Christabel Pankhurst and Annie Kenney, Miss Capper began to study the movement, and joined the local W.S.P.U., of which she has since been an active member.

**Clara M. Codd** comes of a Liberal family. In 1907 Miss Æta Lamb asked Miss Codd to help with a meeting for Annie Kenney, and she thereupon joined the N.W.S.P.U. She has been one of Annie Kenney's most active helpers in the West of England during the past year.

**Marion Wallace-Dunlop**.—Miss Wallace-Dunlop is an artist, and has exhibited in London, Paris, and elsewhere. She has also written and illustrated children's books. Miss Wallace-Dunlop's father, Robt. Henry Wallace-Dunlop, C.B., of the Bengal Civil Service, was decorated for distinguished service in the Indian Mutiny, and is a descendant on her mother's side of the great Wallace of Scottish fame. She has already served a month in Holloway.

**S. Ada Flatman** first heard about votes for women during a tour in Australia. On returning to England she attended the meetings of the N.W.S.P.U., of which she very soon became an ardent member.

**Lettie Floyd**, whose ancestry includes the fiery reformer John Knox, has been a hospital nurse. She feels strongly that women should have a voice in legislation on behalf of women, especially of young mothers and children, and her experience has been of peculiar value in enforcing this view on many occasions.

**Æta A. D. Lamb**.—A granddaughter of the late General Nicholls, of the Bengal Staff Corps, Miss Lamb was born in Demerara, where her father was in the Government Secretariat. Since early girlhood she has realised the vital necessity for the Suffrage, and she joined the N.W.S.P.U. soon after its formation.

**Mrs. Alice Leigh**, who has been arrested twice before, the last time for throwing stones at Mr. Asquith's window, is well known in North-West London, and has been active in several by-elections.

**Mary A. Redhead** belongs to a family of 13, out of whom seven have Parliamentary votes. These have formerly been cast for the Liberal party, but the entire family has decided to refrain from using them in the Liberal interest until women are enfranchised. Mrs. Redhead joined the N.W.S.P.U. after hearing Mary Gawthorpe speak in Lancashire.

**Aimee D. Dillon Shallard**.—Miss Shallard is essentially a home-lover, her interests centring in gardening, breadmaking and housewifery. Her interest in the movement, and that of her mother, to whom since her father's death she has devoted herself, was first roused by the imprisonment of Christabel Pankhurst and Annie Kenney, and on settling in London a year ago both joined the N.W.S.P.U.

**Mrs. Kathleen S. Tanner**, an Irishwoman, has vivid recollection of the formation of the Ladies' Land League; her interest in politics was first roused by Parnell's policy of "obstruction." She joined the N.W.S.P.U. in February, 1907, and has been concerned in every demonstration of the Union since that date.

**Mrs. Williams**, compelled to earn her own livelihood from an early age, rebelled against the inequality of women's pay. She was for some years a member of a women's Liberal association, but on the arrest of Mrs. Pankhurst in February of this year she decided to join the N.W.S.P.U.

**Ada C. G. Wright** has worked for several years on behalf of Progressive County Council candidates, and for London School Board candidates, and women's Liberal associations. She has also worked at Toynbee Hall, and in connection with various working girls' clubs. Miss Wright suffered imprisonment in 1907.

<b>Janet Coates,</b>	<b>Miss S. Martin,</b>
<b>Ellen Smith,</b>	<b>M. A. Mitchell,</b>
<b>Jane Grey,</b>	<b>Gertrude Llewellyn,</b>
<b>Kathleen Brown,</b>	<b>Mrs. G. H. Boutelle,</b>
	<b>and 12 men.</b>

## FROM THE "TIMES," OCTOBER 13. Riotous Women Suffragists.

It must be difficult for the more thoughtful advocates of Parliamentary votes for women to justify the latest measures adopted by the woman suffragists for the pursuance of their end. It is probable that few of the women who within the past two days have been attempting to incite a mob to "rush" the House of Commons have any intelligent idea of the nature of the action on which they have announced they will to-day embark.

It is not easy to conceive how the suffragists could have proved themselves more ingrained with incapacity for the exercise of the constitutional privileges which they demand than by their unscrupulous or unthinking resort to an alliance with such unruly and criminal elements as they can collect, on two days' notice, from the streets and slums of the capital. Although, however, the promoters of to-day's intended riot may be incapacitated from a full realisation of what forces they are invoking, there has been no attempt on their part to conceal their intention to create a riotous demonstration and to put illegal pressure on the members of the House of Commons. This being so, the police authorities were acting not a whit too severely when they summoned three of the principal ringleaders to appear yesterday at Bow-street for promoting a breach of the peace. Most persons who retain a due sense of the impersonal dignity of the law will feel some regret that the magistrate proved so far indulgent to the offenders as to give them another day's grace before issuing a warrant for their apprehension. It would have been much better to bring these ladies under the control of the law before, as now seems likely, they use their interval of independence to participate in the disturbances which they have helped to organise.

These woman suffragists have apparently determined to embark on a prolonged course of deliberate law-breaking. They must be made to suffer the due penalty, accordingly, on each occasion of offence. The execution of the law should not be allowed to swerve by a hair's breadth from its appointed course. Chivalry is wholly out of place in dealing with systematic and deliberate transgression; and the natural irritation which may be felt at persistent and mischievous misdemeanour must, of course, be suppressed with equal self-control. Though the sense of humour is not likely to be strongly developed among the participants in this kind of demonstration, it may be hoped that, sooner or later, the absurdity of attempting to bring a crown of martyrdom from the ever-patient and imperturbable ranks of the police may begin to dawn upon their excited imaginations. Their case is one to which, in their own opinion, the analogy of the importunate widow may perhaps seem encouragingly applicable. Neither the law nor the Legislature should lend the slightest support to this view. Even supposing that the widow's claim was on all fours with that of Mrs. Pankhurst and her associates, there is a profound difference in the respective methods of their prosecution. While the widow secured her object by the repetition of a strictly legitimate method of judicial procedure, her modern emulators seek to storm the tribunal by the aid of robbers and thieves. Fortunately there is no sign of weakness displayed by the Government in its attitude towards this illegitimate agitation. It has the support of members of Parliament of both parties in its discountenance of the suffragist excesses, and in the measures which have been taken to prevent a grave breach of the peace. Until the suffragists grow tired, or ashamed, of their methods, Government, police, and public must alike quietly resign themselves to the steady application of the law.

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

### Constitution.

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

**METHODS.**—The objects of the Union shall be promoted by—

1. Action entirely independent of all political parties.
2. Opposition to whatever Government is in power until such time as the franchise is granted.
3. Participation in Parliamentary Elections in opposition to the Government candidate, and independently of all other candidates.
4. Vigorous agitation upon lines justified by the position of outlawry to which women are at present condemned.
5. The organising of women all over the country to enable them to give adequate expression to their desire for political freedom.
6. Education of public opinion by all the usual methods, such as public meetings, demonstrations, debates, distribution of literature, newspaper correspondence, and deputations to public representatives.

**MEMBERSHIP.**—Women of all shades of political opinion who approve the objects and methods of the Union, and who are prepared to act independently of party, are eligible for membership. It must be clearly understood that no member of the Union shall support the candidate of any political party in Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the parliamentary vote.

The Women's Social and Political Union are asking for votes for women on the *same terms* as they are possessed by men.

They are not asking for the vote for every woman, but that a woman shall not be refused a vote simply because she is a woman.

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

### THE FAITH THAT IS IN US.

There was the sound of drums and the tramp of feet to be heard in the distance. A regiment of soldiers was on the march and was coming down the street. Men ran to their shop fronts, children gathered in the gutter. To the entrance of a narrow passage leading into a slum court came an old woman. Her back was bent and her hair was white with years. She peered up the street, and upon the withered face was the flickering light of awakened interest.

"Now then, mother," said a stalwart young policeman, not unkindly, but in masterful tones, "haven't you got some mangling to do?" He pointed down the passage into the gloomy court.

The old woman started and gave one humble cowed glance at the young man's face, then turned silently and crept away into the hiding place whence she had emerged. And the music came nearer and the drum throbbed to the rhythm

of the gaily marching lines. And the joy of that blessed bit of colour in grey streets, and the pleasant excitement of measured sound belonged to all, except the woman, whose lot and whose rightful destiny as men seem to see it is unending drudgery.

"Mother!" That cowed, shrinking look on your old, sorrow-lined face was noted by one of the daughters of woman. Deep into her heart it sank, and she set her teeth as she said to herself: "Mother, it is you that I shall think of on October 13, when I go forth to battle in unequal contest with the forces of men's domination. For you and for thousands like you there is no escape—you and countless numbers of dejected, spiritless women, despised by the lowest and the least, will go down with your grey hairs in sorrow to the grave; but the coming race of women will not be so lightly trodden under foot. For them life shall not be ceaseless drudgery paid with the wages of contempt. We younger women who are called to-day to fight the battle for our sex will see to that."

The State is confronted in these days with grievous social problems. The misery of great masses of the people is breaking bounds. It is dimly realised that the national waste and misery of extreme poverty will have to be dealt with by those who are responsible for the governing of this country.

But there is nothing so terrible in the social conditions of to-day as the evil plight of women. And women are politically dumb.

There is a story in the Government Bluebook giving the report of the late Commission on Sweating of a widow working sixty hours a week to keep five children and herself upon the wage of two shillings and ninepence. No white man would dream of accepting such a pittance.

However poor and wretched a man may be, there is one being worse off than himself, one that we can look down upon with pity or contempt, and that is the woman most intimately associated with his life.

Public ministers have been talking lately of the necessity of dealing with the question of unemployment. Their talk is all of men; they hardly seem to realise that there are any women in the country. Their remedies for this great evil imply the further despoiling of women for the relief of men.

Mr. Macnamara supports Mr. John Burns in the suggestion that an easy way to find work for unemployed men is to turn married women out of employment by Act of Parliament.

Mr. Haldane suggests a scheme for taking men into the Territorial Army, where they will be clothed, fed, housed, and given a small pocket-money wage. What is to become of the wives who, if the other two men could have their way, would be legally debarred from earning money, and what is to become of the children deserted by these men he does not seem to think or care.

Unresisting women will be trodden under foot in any time of stress and crisis, not because the intention of politicians is sinister, but because placed in a perilous position, hemmed in by obstacles, they are driven to get out of the difficulty by the way that offers least resistance; and since women have no political power the easiest way out hitherto has been over the bodies of women. No wonder they look to get out of the present difficulty again in the same way.

But it is not going to be the easy way now. Women have determined to resist. Women have resolved to battle for the freedom and for the honour of their sex. Women are going on with this fight till they win equal political status and equal political power with men, so that they may, by the weapon of the vote, protect their industry, their liberties, and their self-respect.

That is what October 13, 1908, means in the annals of modern history.

It means the revolt of women from injustice, oppression, and light contempt. It means their steadfast determination on behalf of their sex to throw off the yoke of subjection. It means that they are resolved to be cowed no longer by the ridicule, by the cheap insult, or by the physical force that have served to hold women down in the past.

A fight has been begun by the women of Britain which will never end until they win from the Government of this country the restitution of their constitutional rights, and become able thereby to achieve their mental, moral, physical, and industrial emancipation, and to maintain the rightful freedom and dignity of womanhood.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

## WHY WE RAIDED THE HOUSE.

Since the following article was written Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Drummond, and I have been arrested. While we are outside the active struggle we call upon the women of the country to play their part, knowing that only along the line of militant opposition to the Government can victory be won.

For forty years women have demanded the vote in vain. This want of success is, as we now clearly understand, due to the fact that until recently Suffragists relied on so-called constitutional methods of agitation. These methods were not and could not be constitutional, because the only power which can set the constitutional machinery in motion is the Parliamentary vote.

Thus, if voteless women who think by the methods erroneously called constitutional to win the right of citizenship, they are merely playing at politics, just as a child plays at keeping shop or has a make-believe tea-party.

Not possessing the vote, the key of the constitutional door, those who would be citizens must, without standing on ceremony, force their way in as best they can. Because women have failed until now to understand this, they are still voteless, while men, by their revolt against political subjection, have long since compelled Parliament to grant the vote to them.

To-day, we see clearly the way which leads to enfranchisement. It is not at all times an easy one to travel, but at the end lies success, and better hardship and imprisonment through which we go to victory than the discouragement and helplessness of those patient Suffragists who tried so many weary years in vain.

The militant campaign for Woman Suffrage, which is designed to attack the Government at every possible point, began when the Liberal party came into power. The Liberal leaders were asked whether during their term of office votes would be granted to women. By returning a negative answer to this question the Government declared war upon the women who claim political liberty, and the challenge was taken up by the Women's Social and Political Union. From that day to this the Union has been in opposition to the Government. At public meetings, at the House of Commons, at by-elections, the attack has been made. Let us consider the result. The question of votes for women has come out of the backwater in which it was, into midstream. Women are stirred as never before to a desire for political liberty, men begin to understand that this is an issue bigger than those impressed upon their attention by the party politicians.

What of the effect of militant methods upon the Government? They have learnt that women are not the easily suppressed, politically inexperienced, powerless beings they supposed. They begin to understand that the tiny cloud which in 1905 they hardly saw, and thought would pass away, has spread and darkened until it cannot be ignored. They have hoped to tire out and wear down the women of this movement. Now it seems they have designed another way of circumventing the women who are conducting so persistent and disconcerting a warfare against them. A Reform Bill is being held in reserve. This measure is to be introduced in a form applying to men alone. The Prime Minister's declaration on the subsequent inclusion of Woman Suffrage is of such a nature as to leave room for no doubt whatever that he hopes either to secure enactment of the Reform Bill without a Woman Suffrage clause, or, failing this, to see the whole Bill, Woman Suffrage clause and all, rejected by the Lords. It is necessary to labour this point. Every experienced Suffragist knows what pitfalls lie beneath the Reform Bill.

The danger can be averted only by getting the political dis-

ability of sex removed by means of a separate measure before the Reform Bill is introduced. If this vitally important end is to be achieved, pressure more stern than ever must be brought to bear upon the Government. Hence the demonstration in Leeds a few days ago, and the demonstration planned for October 13, which, as these notes are written, has yet to take place. In June of this year a great concourse of people assembled in Parliament-square in support of Woman Suffrage. The events of that day did much to prove to the Government the serious character of the agitation which their unjust policy has called into being. Their fear of the crowd was evident, and, accordingly, it is incumbent upon us to make further use of a weapon which we know to be effectual. This time the public are asked to co-operate with us in gaining entrance to the House of Commons.

This call to the public has been made because we believe it to be necessary in the interest of our cause. We realise this to be a serious step, but nevertheless we take it because of the great issue which is at stake, and because of the senseless and blind opposition which resists the advancing women. The Government, acting through the police, assert that those who come to Parliament-square do so at some risk, yet they have thought lightly, if at all, of the risk which we have daily to face resulting from the example they have set the unthinking part of the community by arresting and imprisoning us for demanding the vote. The plain fact is that the Government are and will be held responsible if harm comes to any member of this Union, or of the general public on Tuesday. By their obstinate resistance to the legitimate demand of women for political rights, they have made inevitable the present militant campaign, and by refusing to yield to the pressure already applied they have compelled us to apply stronger pressure still.

Christabel Pankhurst.

### Daughters of England.

Daughters of England, awake and bestir you,  
High be your hearts and with fervour aglow!  
Ye, too, are Britons! and England's the loser,  
While half of her children their service forego.  
Rouse ye, arouse ye, claim boldly your freedom,  
Wives, sisters, mothers of men who are free!  
Yours the same blood, the same heritage, history,  
Yours the same breeding; the same rights have ye!

Men taunting cry, "Ye are naught to the Empire,  
Taking no part in her battles and strife—  
*We die* for our land;" yet each mother among you  
Bravely faced death to give England a *life*!  
Courage ye have, yes, and wisdom—but *use* them;  
Fearless declare 'gainst injustice and wrong!  
Old grows the world, and ah! slow in its progress;  
Your aid is needed to help it along!

Rise in your thousands, then, liberty claiming  
To vote for the laws ye are bound to obey!  
Heirs of your fathers who won the same freedom,  
Shall ye be less Liberty-loving than they?

#### THE ANSWER.

Sisters, we hearken, we come to your calling,  
True daughters of Freemen, we flock to the fight;  
And swear by our womanhood, dauntless, unfalt'ring  
To battle for Freedom and Justice and Right!

(Repeat.)

Yes, we swear by Old England, our Mother, unfalt'ring  
To battle for Freedom and Justice and Right!

MARGARET A. MARTIN.

The above is one of the Suffragette songs set to music by Mrs. Alicia Adelaide Needham.

## PROTESTS AT CABINET MINISTERS' MEETINGS

### MR. GLADSTONE AT LINCOLN.

Ever since we stood in the Police Court at Rochester-row, indignantly watching the miserable travesty of justice which sent women—political prisoners by every canon of law and fair play—to prison as common criminals, unconvicted, in order that for some of them the longest term allowed by the Act under which they were tried might be exceeded; ever since we stood there, sick at heart because of our powerlessness to interfere with those atrocious sentences which have stained the purity of English justice, and destroyed our belief in the freedom of English magistrates from political bias, we have welcomed any opportunity of coming face to face with the cowardly instigators of what even the Liberal Press has denounced as a "serious miscarriage of justice." The natural shrinking felt by every right-minded woman from exposing herself to coarse brutality and vulgar jests has been swallowed up in righteous anger and a burning desire to protest by any means in our power against the voteless condition of women, which exposes them to such glaring injustice.

When, therefore, that evasive and shuffling politician, the Home Secretary, who has so grossly abused for party purposes the power entrusted to him, was announced to speak at Lincoln, we determined that we, too, would be present. The very traditions of the place made it comparatively easy to protest there against tyranny and political slavery. The cathedral itself, which was almost the first thing we saw on entering the city, reminded us of that stout old Bishop of Lincoln, St. Hugh of Avalon, who, facing the wrath of the fierce Plantagenet king, made one of the earliest constitutional protests against unjust taxation, and successfully defended his flock from an extortionate and illegal impost.

#### An Historic Example.

But it was to the castle that we women chiefly looked for encouragement, for there a woman, Nicholan de la Haye, giving the lie to that stock fallacy of our opponents, that "women cannot be soldiers," successfully conducted one of the greatest defences in the history of our nation. As Governor of the castle, then the key of Eastern England, she held it in 1217 against the united forces of French invaders, rebel barons, and traitor citizens, until the Earl of Pembroke could come to her relief when the French, caught in the streets of the city between the garrison and the relieving army, were utterly defeated, and a second French Conquest was averted. I am not ashamed to say that, standing there in that narrow, steep street which once ran red with the mingled blood of French invaders and English defenders, I mentally saluted those grey old walls in honour of the valiant woman who had defended them so well. She fought for a great cause, the preservation of her country from a foreign foe, but we for a still greater one, the redemption of the women of the world from thralldom; and, as we went down to the unlovely circumstances of our own battlefield, we could hardly help wondering whether the odds we were going to face might not perhaps be almost as great as those against which Nicholan de la Haye stood so gallantly at bay.

The immense crowd that filled the Corn Exchange, long before the meeting was announced to begin, was not there to hear Mr. Herbert Gladstone. All around us, as we patiently gasped for breath in the stifling atmosphere of the badly ventilated building, questions were flying about the Suffragettes. Was Mrs. Pankhurst there? How many had contrived to get in? How did they manage it? Everywhere there was an air of expectancy, and we felt that if we had not been there a great many people would have gone home disappointed.

During the Chairman's opening address, one or two men interrupted, as usual, with impunity. Mr. Gladstone began his speech by giving a list of some of the things to be done when Parliament met, but, as he forgot to mention the enfranchisement of women, I asked him what the Government proposed to do for us during the coming session. The customary uproar broke out, but to my surprise and pleasure there was a distinctly friendly note in it. The women especially (and there were numbers of them) almost clapped in their delight at seeing a woman venture to make herself heard. That reception of a woman's interruption marks a decided turn in the tide of public opinion. As soon as the uproar had subsided Mr. Gladstone went on with his speech. As he did not attempt to answer my question, I rose and asked it again. Then came the usual rush of frenzied stewards; chairs seemed to be spinning all over the place; there was a nightmare confusion of faces, some furious, some sympathetic, and then the cool darkness and the welcome night air.

Subsequently, history repeated itself in the hall. Mr. Gladstone mentioned various measures which the Government proposed to bring forward, many of them vitally affecting women and children. Woman after woman, defying with quiet courage the increasing fury and brutality of the stewards, asked the Cabinet Minister, whose salary they helped to pay, whether the Government really intended to attempt to settle such questions as these without consulting the women of the country. Not one of them obtained an answer to her question. All were "ruthlessly flung out," in strict accordance with Mr. Lloyd George's recent instructions—instructions with which his name will be associated when everything else he has done is forgotten.

While the protests were going on we borrowed a box from the friendly proprietress of a neighbouring shop, and began a meeting outside the Corn Exchange, explaining why we were there, and what we were doing. A large crowd of men listened attentively and sympathetically for some time, but a mob of noisy, though entirely goodnatured, boys followed the ejected women out of the hall, and by shouting and rushing at the men from the back, made it difficult for the speakers to continue. We did go on for a little while longer, and invited the men to come to the same place on the next day in their dinner hour. Then, shaking off our noisy escort by boarding a tram, we went home.

#### Enthusiastic Reception Next Day.

The next morning, at the appointed hour, the enclosed space outside the Corn Exchange was packed with a dense crowd, including a great many women, some clergymen, the Liberal member for Lincoln (who had been chairman of the meeting on the previous evening) and his wife. They listened with great attention to the explanation of our tactics, especially of the protests at meetings, and seemed to grasp the situation when we told them that, as long as Cabinet Ministers refused us freedom of speech at the ballot-box, so long would we, whenever we were by any possible means able to be present at their meetings, do our utmost to prevent them from having freedom of speech upon the platform. Many intelligent questions were asked, and Mrs. Leigh kept the big audience in a state of delighted amusement by her witty retorts to interruptions. A great crowd came to the station, lining the platform and overflowing on to the stairs of the bridge, and we were sent off with ringing cheers and cries of "Come back again!" "Find us another Cabinet Minister, and we'll certainly come back," we replied.

And so we will.

ONE WHO PROTESTED.

### MR. ASQUITH AT BIRMINGHAM.

On Friday evening Mr. Asquith was present in Birmingham, and addressed the Classical Association in the Town Hall. Although it was a non-political meeting we determined that Mr. Asquith must be made to realise that here, as elsewhere, women demand that the Liberal Government shall deal justly towards them. The most elaborate precautions had been taken to exclude any possible Suffragette. Notwithstanding, we made our presence felt both inside and outside the Town Hall. A party of our workers, energetic and enthusiastic women, sold newspapers and distributed handbills to the large crowd assembled in the vicinity of the Hall, which had quickly collected when it became known that the Suffragettes were present, which news was made known by our courageous member who bore the huge poster announcing the November 4 meeting. Subsequently another leading member and myself entered the Hall. How? of course is only another of the wonderful Suffragette secrets.

Bearing in mind the non-political nature of the proceedings and of Mr. Asquith's speech we waited till the conclusion, and then, to relate what took place in its order of sequence, I advanced rapidly up the Hall during the applause which followed the passing of the vote of thanks, and informed Mr. Asquith that while I had no intention of interrupting a non-political meeting, now it was over I felt it necessary to take this opportunity of asking what the Liberal Government intended to do for women's suffrage this session, reminding him that on the last occasion I attempted to see him I had been imprisoned for six weeks. I also offered a current copy of our VOTES FOR WOMEN paper. I then disappeared from beneath the platform, and Dr. Helena Jones took up the thread of the subject and afterwards left the building. Though Mr. Asquith gave no answer, it was considered apparently that the question was disposed of, but to the utter astonishment of everyone, I reappeared in the orchestra, above the platform this time, and reiterated that question, which up till now Cabinet Ministers have of y replied to evasively and in a totally unsatisfactory manner. Still, there was no answer, and stewards advancing towards me conducted me outside.

GLADICE KEEVIL.

## SUFFRAGIST RIOT IN LEEDS.

### MR. ASQUITH'S VISIT.

### FIVE WOMEN ARRESTED.

On Saturday, October 10, the long-expected visit of the Prime Minister took place. Four women only were able to attend the meeting, with the object of protesting during the course of his speech.

Most extraordinary precautions were taken by the official Liberals to prevent the entrance of suffragettes. No women's tickets were issued until a few days before the meeting, and these only to applicants who had filled up a form with the name and address on it. Each applicant was visited by a Liberal agent, who made exhaustive enquiries as to her character, and even after that a written pledge was extracted.

Even that was not a sufficient guarantee, for each woman who entered the hall was again questioned as to her political opinions. Two of our women failed to pass their examination at the door, and were not admitted. It is difficult to understand how the Liberal party can descend to such ridiculous methods out of fear for a few women who might be moved to make a demand for Democracy of a so-called Democratic Government. In case suffragettes were concealed under the stage in the Coliseum a body of police were stationed round the hall at 7 in the morning, and made a thorough search inside—reminding one of the days of tyranny and persecution and the Gunpowder Plot.

Mrs. Baines and the Leeds members concluded the preparations for a huge protest meeting outside the building, and a cordon of police, on foot and mounted, guarded the road by which the Prime Minister was to pass.

There was no escape for him. Mrs. Baines met him at the station, but, being ordered by the police to leave the platform, awaited him outside. A strong bodyguard was formed for his protection, and mounted police rode alongside. As he came out of the station Mrs. Baines sprang forward and cried out: "Votes for Women! Down with tyranny; down with the Liberal Government." There was absolute silence when she spoke, and then a burst of cheering from the crowd.

Mrs. Baines then went to the Coliseum, where a huge crowd had assembled, and with Miss New and Miss Lambert addressed a meeting. Vigorous speeches were made to an enthusiastic audience, and then Mrs. Baines announced she was going to rush the doors of the Hall. "If they will not give us a hearing we will get inside the hall and make them!" she cried, and led the rush up the steps. She was followed by Miss Lambert, Miss Hodgson (Stockport), Miss Quin, and Miss Garnett, of Leeds, and a crowd of men and women sympathisers. The police stood against the doors, and then arrested Mrs. Baines and the four ladies mentioned above. The crowd cheered wildly, and presently the protesters within were dragged out, to be received with an enthusiastic welcome by their friends outside.

No sooner were the prisoners taken to the Town Hall when Mr. Asquith came out by his usual back exit, but as he entered his car the women supporters surrounded him and hooted him with indignation. He drove away amidst a storm of boos and hisses and hoots.

The prisoners were charged with disorderly conduct, and bailed out by Mr. W. Maylin, Mr. Thomas Butler, of Leeds, and the Rev. C. Weaver, of Bradford.

#### In Court.

On Monday morning they were brought up before the Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate, the prosecution being conducted by Mr. Bateson from the Town Clerks' Office. In the case of Mrs. Baines the prosecution asked for a remand, and on the question being put to her by the Magistrate whether she objected, she replied: "I have no defence. I object to a remand."

The Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate: Well, I think the application for a remand is reasonable.

After an interval, in which the case of a Mr. Kitson, a leader of the unemployed, was discussed, the Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate said to Mrs. Baines: I suppose it is useless to ask you to give such an undertaking? (Laughter.)

Mrs. Baines: Yes.

The Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate: Then I shall not grant bail. Sit down and consider it for a few moments.

Mrs. Baines sat down, and subsequently appeared in the dock. Addressing her, the Deputy Stipendiary Magistrate said that from inquiries he found that she had not had notice of the actual charge she was asked to plead to. She would be liberated on £10 bail until Wednesday.

The charges of disorderly conduct against Miss Hodgson, Miss Quin, Miss Garnett, and Miss Lambert, who had all been admitted to bail, were then proceeded with. Each of the defendants pleaded "Not guilty."

Mr. Bateson said that in each case the defendants were warned by police constables before being arrested. A meeting was taking

place at which Mrs. Baines was speaking, and she said: "If those tyrants refuse to listen to us, break down the barriers." Shortly afterwards the crowd rushed across the street to the Coliseum doors, and then defendants were among the crowd. Notwithstanding the fact that they were warned by the officers, the women persisted in pushing forward, and it was certainly not involuntarily on their part.

Detective Officer Wright said he saw Miss Hodgson rush across Cookridge-street, along with the other women, and she attempted to enter the Coliseum by the bottom door. He got hold of her, pushed her back, and told her to get away. She at once returned, however, and tried to get past him. He then took her into custody.

Detective Officer Eburne said Mrs. Baines was delivering a speech from a lorry, and she shouted: "If the tyrants won't listen to us, we will break down the iron bars, and break the doors." Miss Lambert rushed to the colonnade, and, after being pushed back, returned again, and got half way through the door. When arrested she became very violent.

Detective Officer Elmy, who arrested Miss Garnett, said the defendant waved her arms about, and shouted: "Follow me, unemployed; this way!"

#### Refuse to be Bound Over.

On the charge of disorderly conduct all the female defendants (with the exception of Mrs. Baines, the charges against whom were not proceeded with on Monday) were—after making protests against "man-made laws"—ordered to be bound over in the sum of £10 to be of good behaviour for six months: or, in default, five days' imprisonment.

The four defendants in turn refused to be bound over, and they went below, each shouting as she went down: "Down with tyranny, and votes for women."

The case of Mrs. Baines is being taken on Wednesday, October 14. Meetings are being organised by Miss Adela Pankhurst to protest against the sentences, and the support of the Yorkshire men and women is confidently looked forward to.

### QUESTIONING MR. BUXTON.

Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., addressed a meeting under the auspices of the Young British Liberal Association at Birmingham on Tuesday evening, the 6th inst. The most amazing precautions had been taken to prevent the Suffragettes entering the Temperance Hall where the meeting was held. As no women were able to gain admission two men sympathisers entered the hall, and they effectively brought forward the question of women's suffrage during Mr. Buxton's speech.

The Postmaster was referring to the effective work the Liberals were doing when a man in the gallery called out, "Why not carry out votes for women?" "That seemed to be a male voice," said Mr. Buxton amid laughter, which was renewed when someone replied: "It's an old woman, sir!"

Mr. Buxton: "It is a question which is rather beside the question at the present moment, and it is not one on which there is any party division. There are some for it and some against it in both parties, and it is to be discussed on its own merits. I am one of those who voted for women's suffrage. But I am bound to say this—that the way in which many of those who seem to be keenest about women's suffrage are acting will have the effect of making some of us reconsider our position." (Loud applause.)

Continuing his address, Mr. Buxton said he was referring to the Government action in regard to social questions, and he wished to refer to them in all seriousness. Mr. Buxton had uttered a few more sentences when the person in the gallery again interrupted, and was at once removed by the stewards.

The second man suffered a similar fate.

### ADMISSION REFUSED.

A woman who wished to attend Mr. Churchill's meeting at Dundee, having passed the stewards at the doors, took her place in the centre of the back gallery. About 7 o'clock, when the hall was packed from floor to ceiling, the Liberal organisers came to her and ordered her out. She refused to go, saying that she had got in quite legitimately, and had done nothing that could be objected to by anyone. The organiser and stewards then dragged her along the seat—she fell twice, once with a steward on the top of her—carried her to the top of the stair, hurried her down, and threw her into the street. Throughout the occurrence she did not speak except to say that she would not leave the hall, the meeting not having begun.

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## THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

### WEST OF ENGLAND.

Shop and Committee Rooms: 33, Queen's-road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton  
Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

#### At Homes.

Mondays, 3 to 5.—Victoria Assembly Rooms, Clifton.  
Fridays, 7.30.—Hannah More Hall, Clifton.

#### Important Event.

November 20.—Mrs. Pankhurst at the Colston Hall.

Last week we were busy pushing forward the campaign in Bristol. The At Home on Monday was a great success, and Miss Neal gave an interesting account of how she was brought into touch with the movement, and what it meant to her and to the men and women of the country. Several new members were made. On Tuesday I went to speak for the League of Progressive Thought, and had a most successful audience, the collection being given to help us in our Bristol work. Miss Clara Codd was the speaker at the weekly At Home in the Hannah More Hall on Friday evening. She told the audience that she was going to take part in the deputation to Mr. Asquith on October 13, and was prepared for any consequences which might ensue. She believed that this movement was a new birth for the world, and that in future the women were going to do their part with wider opportunities than they had ever had before.

We have been busy canvassing in North Bristol, the constituency of Mr. Birrell. The canvassers have found almost universal support of the proposition that women who pay rates and taxes ought to have the vote. Out of all those visited only two real rebuffs were received.

On Thursday, October 16, we are holding a meeting in the Vestry Hall, Pennywell-road. Meanwhile, we are having on Wednesday, October 14, an At Home given by Mrs. Pudney, in Winscombe. Mrs. Pudney is a New Zealander, and has already exercised the franchise.

On Monday, Miss Ida Walters is taking the chair at the At Home. Though she has only spoken once before, she is promising to be very useful to us. Her sister, Miss Jessie Walters, was one of the women who protested at Mr. Lloyd George's recent meeting in Swansea.

I should mention here that our big meeting in the Guildhall, Plymouth, is on Friday, November 27, not, as previously stated, on the 24th.

I want all friends in the West of England who wish to be present at the Colston Hall meeting to buy their tickets as early as possible. Apply, Miss James, 33, Queen's-road, Clifton. Miss James has taken the place of Miss Codd. Tickets, 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. Don't forget At Homes every Monday afternoon at 3.30, Victoria Rooms, Clifton. We welcome every one, whether they are friends or opponents. One lady who was brought reluctantly to our At Home only two weeks ago is now heartily with us.

We want all workers to meet at the shop every day at ten o'clock in the morning or two o'clock in the afternoon, when a canvassing party start out to work in Mr. Birrell's constituency. Also we want more people to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN at the theatres. Workers are wanted more every day. There is such a lot to do, and we must rouse up Bristol to a sense of its responsibility towards the movement we are working in.

About money, I am able to send to the treasurer £3 2s. 1d. for weekly collections. I am getting out collecting cards to see what we can collect before the new year. Will any worker or sympathiser do all they can to collect money for us? Anyone prepared to take a collecting card write to me, 78, Alma-road.

I also want to make a strong appeal for money. Will all those who can afford to give something to help on the work send it on to me as early as possible. We want money, we want workers, and we want people who will sacrifice much for the great human movement for individual liberty, for which we are fighting.

Annie Kenney.

### LANCASHIRE.

#### At Homes.

Manchester, Fridays, Onward Buildings, Deansgate, 8.  
Liverpool, Tuesdays, 8 p.m.

Preston, Glover's Court, Mondays, 3.

N.B.—Manchester, Portico Library, November 6, 8 p.m., Mr. F. W. Pethick-Lawrence.

#### Church Congress in Manchester.

Every day during the past week the suffragettes have been in evidence at the various sittings of the Church Congress, and every day outside the Free Trade Hall, the Town Hall, and the Midland Hall little groups of clerics and the general public were to be seen in conversation with a representative of the Women's Social and Political Union. A special leaflet had been prepared, being re-

prints from "Opinions of Leaders of Religious Thought," and five thousand were delivered at the various meetings of delegates and the special meetings for men and women.

Many prominent Churchmen were spoken to, and, taking the whole—from the bishops to the laymen and laywomen—the experiences of the suffragist workers were most gratifying. The Bishop of Perth, who willingly accepted a leaflet, told a great meeting of women that they had no suffragettes in West Australia as women had the vote there, and he thought that if women had them in Lancashire, for instance, the homes would be very much better than they were, and that the women would refuse to live in some of them absolutely. When the Archbishop of Melbourne was offered a leaflet he said that women had votes in Australia, and, in reply to a question, thought it beneficial, too.

Many important dignitaries were asked why the citizenship of women was not being discussed at this congress, and promised to give the suggestion their support for the next congress, if the question were not settled by then. There is every prospect that any way the matter will come up for discussion then. At the special "Congress At Home," held in the Portico Library, the Rev. L. Donaldson, St. Mark's, Leicester, spoke splendidly on the vote being immediately conceded to women on the ground of justice being done to their womanhood. His remarks on the tactics, too, provoked repeated applause. The tactics, he said, were what the suffragettes claimed them to be—"tactics"—and they involved no moral considerations, as certain papers had recently postulated. To say it was wrong to ask questions at a meeting or to protest when they were not answered was absurd. We would that more pulpits were open to the fearless advocacy of our cause the Rev. Mr. Donaldson gives us.

On Friday the usual weekly At Home was again held in the Portico Library, the Onward Buildings being engaged for congress work. Mrs. Martel and Miss Dora Marsden spoke with great effect to a large audience, and Mrs. Scott dealt heroically with a mass of detailed announcements dealing with preparations for opening of Parliament, as mentioned below.

Meanwhile I lectured to a large audience got together by the Debating Society of the famous Stockport Sunday School, with its 2,000 regular attenders. The Liberal element present gave special opportunity for "pointing the moral to adorn the tale," and undoubtedly much lasting good was done. Stockport is ready for a great demonstration on the lines of other important forthcoming efforts in Lancashire.

#### The Week's Doings.

By the time this appears in print many of the following proposals will, I hope, have proved matters of important fact. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday great rally meetings will be held in Stevenson-square. On Monday the Government's autumn programme will be discussed. On Tuesday we shall meet to discuss the attitude of the Women's Social and Political Union to that programme, and on Wednesday we shall outline future work. The speakers will be Mrs. Martel, Miss Patricia Woodlock, and myself, augmented by well-known workers in Manchester. We are sending a deputation from Manchester to take part in the women's meeting of Tuesday, and we trust the Government may be wise and politic enough to give the pledge that little extra time will be given to afford the passing of the Women's Enfranchisement Bill (already so far advanced) into law this session. If not, women suffragists from all over the country will know what to do.

Mrs. Martel reports that Preston and Liverpool are both "going strong." We hope to arrange for important visits to both centres at a very early date. Meanwhile, we hope all national and local members in Liverpool, Preston, Blackburn, Lancaster, Bolton, Bury, Rochdale, and everywhere else in the district, within available distance from Manchester, will immediately mark down Wednesday, November 25, as "W.S.P.U. Day." We want parties from every centre in Lancashire. I shall be glad to send a Free Trade Hall collecting card to any members and friends who will apply to me at the Manchester office, 116, Portland-street.

Mary E. Gawthorpe.

### YORKSHIRE.

Mrs. Homersham gave an At Home (under the auspices of the W.S.P.U.) on Tuesday afternoon, October 6, in Somerset Parlour, Bradford.

It was a most successful afternoon. About 100 people were present, completely filling our little room. Mrs. Homersham, as hostess, presided. We made an excellent impression upon the audience, many of whom were attending their first suffrage meeting, and we sold many tickets for the meeting on October 26 in the St. George's Hall, at which Miss Christabel Pankhurst is to speak.

On Monday afternoon Mrs. Hall is giving a similar At Home at 4.30 in Somerset Parlour.

The account of the riot which took place on the occasion of Mr. Asquith's visit, and of the consequent arrests, I have given elsewhere.

Adela Pankhurst.

### MIDLANDS.

#### At Homes.

Birmingham, 14, Ethel Street, Monday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.  
Wolverhampton, The Baths Assembly Rooms, Thursday, 3.30 to 5 p.m.

#### Important Events.

Birmingham Town Hall Meeting, November 4.  
Coventry, Baths Assembly Hall Meeting, November 17.

The four weeks' campaign in Wolverhampton culminated on Thursday evening, October 8, in the Baths Assembly Rooms, on the occasion of the public meeting. Long before the time advertised for the opening of the doors people were waiting to enter. Three standards in purple, white, and green decorated the back of the platform, and posters of the newspaper were suspended on the walls. The twenty women stewards were dressed in white with purple and green rosettes.

Mrs. Pankhurst's stirring address was listened to with the keenest interest and enthusiasm, and her appeal for financial support to the Midlands funds was responded to most generously.

Dr. Helena Jones in an interesting speech dealt with the importance of the vote to women who earned their own living. We were fortunate in having present Miss Joachim, who recounted her recent three months' experience in Holloway Gaol to a very sympathetic audience.

The highest praise is due to the Wolverhampton members who have worked splendidly throughout the whole campaign.

The weekly At Homes on Thursday afternoon at 3.30 in the Baths Assembly Rooms, Wolverhampton, have become a permanent institution; here the members meet together and bring their friends, but I would like the Wolverhampton sympathisers to clearly understand that these At Homes are quite public, and we shall be glad to see all those who are interested and wish to know more concerning the women's movement.

In Birmingham we are now preparing for three weeks' active campaign leading up to the large mass meeting in the Town Hall, which is fixed to take place on November 4, when Miss Christabel Pankhurst is coming to address us. Many tickets have already been sold, some at the Sunday afternoon meeting at Small Heath Park Gates. Amongst other purchasers were three schoolgirls, who told Dr. Jones that they wanted to buy a ticket each, as they were most anxious to hear Miss Pankhurst; occasionally they arrange meetings in their own school, one or the other addressing them.

I am sending the treasurer the following amounts, viz.:—Dr. Kirby (per Mrs. M. Burman), £1; collections per Mrs. M. Burman, 10s. 6d.; Miss Ryland (office guarantee), 13s. 6d.; Mrs. Brewster (donation), 11s. 6d.; Mrs. M. A. Tucker, 4s.; collections (Wolverhampton), £2 18s.; sale of tickets (Wolverhampton), £9 13s.; total, £15 10s. 6d.

The Birmingham expenses of the work in this city will be very heavy for some time to come, and will those who are unable to send donations please take a collecting card; in this way we should be able to keep our balance on the right side.

In conclusion, I would like to add that we expect to move into our new offices at No. 14, Ethel-street, Birmingham, very shortly, though the repairs and the repapering of the walls in purple, green, and white will still cause some delay.

All communications should be addressed to me at 49, Bristol-street, Birmingham.

Gladice G. Keevil.

### READING.

Committee Room: 29, St. Mary's Butts.

#### Important Event.

Monday, October 26, Large Town Hall, 7.30.

The campaign here has made wonderful progress. The weather has been all in our favour, and dinner-hour and evening meetings have been held in various parts of the town every day.

It is most encouraging each day to watch the prejudiced and ignorant opposition dwindle away, and gradually be replaced first by attention, then intelligent interest, and, lastly, support. Each meeting is more enthusiastic than the last, at least two thousand people being present at Caversham Bridge on Sunday afternoon, to listen to an eloquent address by Miss Nancy Lightman.

On Friday we took the largest of the Palmer Halls, and although it was a very wet afternoon, nearly 200 women came. Unfortunately Miss Evelyn Sharp was prevented from coming, but Miss Mary Phillips most ably filled the gap, and we made many new friends. A collection of £1 14s. 9d. was taken at the door, and a cheque for £10 was handed up by Miss Oakley Walker, also 5s. from Mrs. Kenworthy.

A particularly successful meeting was held in St. Mary's Butts on Saturday afternoon. At the end of the meeting one of the

hecklers suggested taking a collection, offering his cap for the purpose, and the crowd, which was almost entirely composed of working people, subscribed 3s. 4d. to the fund.

The tickets for the Town Hall meeting are now ready, and can be procured at the committee rooms, 29, St. Mary's Butts. The prices are 2s., 1s., and 6d. This shop is proving a great centre of attraction, especially in the evenings, and the police, who are most sympathetic and courteous, have a busy time looking after the crowds.

Our paper has sold splendidly, badges are becoming quite fashionable, and very real is the interest shown by the women workers in the biscuit factories. These girls are anxious to help. Many of them are widows or married women, whose husbands are out of work, and who know what it is to play the double part of housewife and breadwinner. Other sympathisers are coming forward also. Amongst them a gentleman who has kindly offered to hoist a flag advertising the Town Hall meeting on the 26th, on the flagpole in his garden.

R. H. Scott.

### NEWCASTLE.

#### At Homes.

Wednesdays 3 to 5, and 8 to 10.—Crosby's Café, Northumberland Street.

#### Important Event.

October 26.—Mrs. Pankhurst at the Town Hall.

The At Homes held this week were very successful, being much more largely attended, a better collection taken, and more literature sold. Many ladies kindly took several extra copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN to pass on to friends, and several members took large quantities to sell. We want a great many more to make themselves responsible for a certain number every week.

A very successful meeting was held in St. Oswin's Hall, Tyne-mouth, on Tuesday, October 6, when Miss Lambert was in the chair, and Mrs. Atkinson and I spoke. Miss Balls and Mrs. Scott, of Tynemouth, arranged and advertised the meeting, and great thanks are due to them.

Successful open-air meetings were held at Wallsend on Thursday, Gateshead and the Haymarket on Friday. The newspapers are selling well and several expeditions for selling are arranged each week.

#### For Newcastle Readers.

Open-air meetings are to be held at Gateshead on Monday, noon; the Big Market, Monday night, 7.30; Wallsend, on Thursday, 7.30; Gateshead, 1; on Friday, Haymarket, Saturday, 8; Windmill Hill, Gateshead, Saturday, 3 p.m. Will our Newcastle members please give in their names as helpers with literature, ticket selling for Mrs. Pankhurst's meetings on the 26th, open-air meetings, newspaper selling, &c. Please send to 37, Rye-hill, or give in names at the At Home.

It is intended to raise the cost of the hire of the hall and printing for the 26th by subscriptions and collecting cards. Will those who will help in this way please take cards. We hope in this way to raise a large sum towards the Newcastle campaign, so that we may be in the proud position of sending substantial sums to the Campaign Fund. Several members have most generously responded to our appeal for speakers, and we hope to get many more this week.

Edith New.

### SCOTLAND.

#### At Homes.

Wednesday, 4 p.m., 24, Shandwick-place, Edinburgh.  
Saturday, 3.30 p.m., 141, Bath-street, Glasgow.

#### Important Events.

Tuesday, October 20.—Lesser Albert Hall, Stirling, 3.

City Hall, Glasgow, 8.

October 21.—Victoria Hall, Helensburgh, 8.

October 22.—Burgh Hall, Hillhead, 3.

Edinburgh Women Students, 7.30.

October 23.—Queen's Hall, Edinburgh, 8.

October 24.—At Home, 141, Bath-street, 3.30.

Good Templars' Hall, Paisley, 8.

This week we began the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN in the streets, and had a brisk sale. This week's poster attracted a good deal of attention.

The Glasgow At Home was again the means of adding to our list of workers, and much valuable assistance has been given both in the office and in outdoor work, but we still want many more speakers for open-air meetings, chalkers, bill distributors, stewards for the City Hall and Paisley, envelope addressers, and helpers of various kinds. We shall be very glad if any members who have some spare time will write or call at the office to say when and how they will help.

The preliminary expense of working so many towns is a large item, and we are very anxious to raise a sufficient sum to meet this before the week of big meetings begins. Will those friends who have yet been unable to give much time or work especially try what they can do to help in this direction. We are sure they will not let this burden fall heavily upon a few, when it might be made a light one by being shared amongst many.

G. M. Conolan.

LOCAL NOTES.

Barnes W.S.P.U.—Our meeting in Byfield Hall was a great success, and we all feel that so large and enthusiastic a meeting in this neighbourhood was an achievement of which to be proud.

ALICIA ROSE.

Brighton and Hove N.W.S.P.U.—On Sunday, October 4, we held our usual open-air meeting at the Level, when Mrs. Massy and Miss Naylor both gave splendid addresses.

T. G. McKEOWN.

Chelsea W.S.P.U.—On Wednesday, October 7, we held a public meeting in the Town Hall, Miss Naylor in the chair. In the unavoidable absence of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Mrs. Pankhurst addressed a keen and appreciative audience.

CHARLOTTE BLACKLOCK.

Edinburgh W.S.P.U.—The Edinburgh Union has again opened after the summer holidays, and we are busy making preparations for Mrs. Pankhurst's meeting on 23rd inst.

ESSON MAULE.

Kensington W.S.P.U.—The town hall meeting last Monday was the most successful we have yet held. We filled the small hall to overflowing, and then filled the large one, and held two meetings, the speakers going from one to the other.

LOUISE M. EATES.

Lewisham W.S.P.U.—Our meetings this week were held under difficulties, but were very successful nevertheless. Miss Ogston was unable to be with us on Friday, and Miss Macaulay on Sunday in Peckham.

L. A. BOUVIER.

Preston W.S.P.U.—The Preston women have indeed been busy. Mrs. Burrows and Mrs. Horn addressed open-air meetings at Blackburn, and later at Chorley, with Miss Woodcock's help and with Councillor Sandham as chairman.

EDITH RIGBY.

Stoke-upon Trent W.S.P.U.—A successful At Home was held on Thursday evening, the 8th inst., at No. 22, Penkville-street, instead of the usual weekly open-air meeting in the centre of the town.

(MRS.) ADELINE REDFERN-WILDE.

Streatham and Brixton W.S.P.U.—Our meeting at "White Horse," Angell-road, on Thursday, was again very successful. The crowd was sympathetic, and any opposition we encountered was thoroughly good-humoured.

K. S. TANNER.

Wellingborough.—Our first effort here at holding a small gathering, in the interests of the Women's Social Political Union, took place at an At Home, held at Wilbye Grange, on October 8.

MARY PARR (MRS.).



Bridget's Ultimatum.

Mistress—"Well, Bridget! How are you this morning?" Bridget—"Able to sit up and give notice, mum, if you don't give me Fels-Naptha to work with."

Anty Drudge (aside)—"Bridget is a good, sensible girl with a mind of her own."

Do you do your family washing the Fels-Naptha way?

Oh!—You don't think clothes can be cleaned without boiling, unless injurious chemicals are used!

Fels-Naptha soap is absolutely free from the chemicals you dread. It cannot injure fabrics or colours. It loosens every speck of dirt and

the dirt comes out with very little rubbing and a thorough rinsing.

When you use Fels-Naptha, follow the directions. Here they are: Soap the white clothes with Fels-Naptha, roll and soak in cold or lukewarm water about thirty minutes. Then rub out slightly and rinse thoroughly—your clothes are ready for the line.

Why not let Fels-Naptha do it? Fels-Naptha will do it. Isn't it worth trying?

EDITH RIGBY.

TREASURER'S NOTE.

The action of the Government in laying hold of the three prominent leaders of the movement, Mrs. Pankhurst, Christabel Pankhurst, and "General" Drummond, is a challenge to every member of the Union, and to every woman and every man who believes in the ideals of freedom and of justice.

E. P. L.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £20,000 FUND.

Table listing contributions to the £20,000 fund from October 7 to October 13, 1908. Includes names like Mrs. Leopold Sutro, Scottish W.S.P.U., Miss Mary Hutchens, etc., with amounts in pounds, shillings, and pence.

A Novel Theory.

A Russian paper has been forwarded to us called "The Union of Women." A friend who understands Russian kindly sends us a synopsis of the articles, which include a page devoted to the campaign in England.

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I endorse the objects and methods of the Women's Social and Political Union, and I hereby undertake not to support the candidate of any political party at Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the Parliamentary vote.

There is an entrance fee of 1s. No definite subscription is fixed, as it is known that all members will give to the full extent of their ability to further the campaign funds of the Union.

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NEW HALL.—RESIDENCE for Women Students of Music, Art, Literature, &c., 19 and 21, Lexham-gardens, W. Principal, Miss RANSOM. Charges from 18 to 30 guineas a term of twelve weeks. Twenty Five students received.

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