

# THE VOTE

(THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.)

VOL. II.—No. 44.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

## NOTICE.

Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and MANAGING DIRECTOR respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.

Offices: 148, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.  
Telephone: HOLBORN 6191.

## EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs, or cuttings dealing with matters of interest to women generally will be welcomed. Every effort will be made to return unsuitable MSS. if a stamped addressed envelope be enclosed, but the Editor cannot be responsible in case of loss.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom ... .. 6/6 per annum, post free.  
Foreign Countries ... .. 8/8 " " "

"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith & Sons.

## WHAT WE THINK.

### A New Principle.

When crowing recently on his native heath Mr. Lloyd George stated a principle for dealing with Bills in the House for which there is no precedent, and which if it were applied to Mr. Lloyd George's own schemes would indefinitely postpone their appearance on the Statute Book. He called attention to the fact that Ireland had not Home Rule yet, though it had been agitating for it for a hundred years, that Welsh Disestablishment had been in the air for seventy or eighty years, and supported by a Welsh majority for forty-two, and that compared with these two burning questions Women's Suffrage had not been long before the country. If there were anything in Mr. George's arguments—leaving aside for a moment the question of Women's Suffrage, he himself should put Home Rule before Welsh Disestablishment or the destruction of the House of Lords—the latter the youngest of the great political crises. But to our astonishment we find the nimble Chancellor stating in the same speech (at Bodnant) that the annihilation of the House of Lords must come before everything, and Welsh Disestablishment a good second, Home Rule and his other hobbies subsequent to these epoch-making questions. This inconsistency is not, of course, the only one of which he has been guilty—like Dundreary's bird, it does not flock alone. Of Welsh Disestablishment he said, "We have not got it yet, but we will get it soon." He gave no assurance that the more ancient demand would be granted at an early date. His historical parallel was merely a red herring—and an offensive one at that—to divert attention from the urgent and pressing needs of the woman's demand.

The woman's question is older than any before the House. It was nebulously formulated when the industrial revolution in 1760 brought women into handicapped competition with men, and for well over a hundred years the question of women's rights—of which the vote is but the outward symbol—has been in the air. In 1792 Mary Wollstonecraft published her Vindication of the Rights of Women and gave substance to the growing feeling of unrest. In 1843, ten years after the Reform Bill had impudently and deliberately disfranchised women, "A Plea for Women" was published, voicing genuine indignation that women could vote for the rulers of India (as shareholders of the East India Company), but not for members of Parliament. The agitation grew in

volume when Richard Cobden, the pioneer of Free Trade, strenuously advocated the cause, and John Stuart Mill, in 1865, as Member for Westminster, mentioned Women's Suffrage in his electoral address, Disraeli promptly coming into line with him. From the first great petition in 1866 to the present day the question has been a burning one in the country. Because it leaves Mr. Lloyd George cold—as Welsh Disestablishment does us—is no reason why it should wait his pleasure or be the victim of his historical inaccuracies.

### Women Bakers.

At a meeting of the Amalgamated Union of Operative Bakers and Confectioners, held in the People's Hall, Birmingham, it was significant of the times that a motion was carried stating that "the time had now arrived when steps should be taken by the Union to organise females employed in the baking and confectionery trades and bring them in as members." The man who introduced this motion mentioned that there were some 2,000 female workers in bakeries. He was sorry, he said, to state that the majority of confectioners advertised for women, and in many places where one man was employed in the baking there were two or three women at work making confectionery. While recognising the importance of women being admitted to the Union, one can only wonder at the colossal impudence which considers it a grievance that women should be employed in making confectionery. Baking is one of the many women's trades which have been appropriated by men, who prefer that women shall do the dirty drudgery of the house while they seize these feminine industries, which might be expected to prove lucrative as well as light. Now only in self-protection, when the capitalist has discovered that female non-union labour is cheap labour, is she to be grudgingly admitted to the union.

### Working Women.

The strike of sixty-two women fancy leather-workers at Messrs. Dewsnap's, Sidney Street, Sheffield, is still in progress, not a single striker showing the slightest inclination to go back except on the terms for which they are fighting. The girls are picketing in a systematic manner the premises of the firm; this is being done peacefully. The directors are refusing to make any statement—which, if they have any case to make is entirely to their disadvantage. Mrs. Aldridge, the organising secretary of the Women's Trade Union of Manchester, said that the issue of the present fight, if the girls win—and they have the backing of the trade organisation in the district—would give a big stimulus to the organisation of women workers in the city. We hope the girls will get their rights, and we can only regard the recent frequency of these strikes and their uniform success as the outward and visible sign of the uprising of womanhood against industrial systems which attempt to take advantage of the handicaps of the female sex. At a recent demonstration in Manchester advocating better wages for women, and held under the auspices of the Women's Trades Union Council, the Women's Trade and Labour Council, and the Men's Trade and Labour Council of Manchester and Salford, the need for combination and organisation amongst women workers was insisted upon. At another meeting held in Manchester the same day Councillor Margaret Ashton pointed out that the effect of organised women's labour would never be as powerful as the men's unions until, like the men, they were represented in Parliament.

**MADAM STEER,** Theatrical Costumier  
and Wig Maker,  
22, MAIDEN LANE, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.  
Factory: 5, WATERLOO ROAD, S.E.

FANCY COSTUMES Made to Order or Lent on Hire.  
THEATRICAL BOOTS AND SHOES MADE TO ORDER.

**WE THINK**  
YOU SHOULD BUY COALS NOW. PRICES ADVANCE SEPT.  
Stove Cobbles...17/6 Best Household 22/- Special House... 21/6  
Roaster Nuts ...18/6 Large Kitchen... 18/- Silkstone .....24/-  
**William CLARKE & SON**  
341, GRAY'S INN ROAD, KING'S CROSS, W.C.  
95, QUEEN'S ROAD, BAYSWATER, W.  
Phones: 628 North, 1582 North, 720 Western, 565 Paddington, &c., &c.  
DELIVERIES EVERYWHERE.





## THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., LTD., 148, Holborn Bars.  
Secretary—Miss M. E. RIDLER.  
Directors—Mrs. C. DESPARD, Mrs. E. HOW MARTYN, B.Sc.,  
COUNTESS RUSSELL, Mrs. J. E. SNOW, Mrs. L. THOMSON-PRICE.  
Managing Director—Miss MARIE LAWSON.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 27, 1910.

### THE NEW DEMOCRACY.

If there is one thing more than another to be suspected in a politician it is the loud-mouthed declamation of democratic sentiments. The divorce between the professions and performances of political democrats is complete. They are democrats when other folk's privileges are to be curtailed, when personal or party advantage will follow from democratic action. At other times they are autocrats of the worst type. An ordinary self-convinced autocrat—a man who believes in the divine right of the better type, in the necessary dominance of an aristocracy of some kind—this man can respect Demos even while struggling against him. But the man who prostitutes democracy while professing it is of a lower type. The one is retrogressive in striving to limit arbitrarily the powers of the people; the other is vile, bartering and tricking them. The one may be a statesman; the other is a huckster, a sharp.

To-day it is the profession of democracy that "pays." An ever-growing audience responds to those who will indulge it, and pays them with huzzahs and votes. Hence it comes about that there is no more discredited weapon in the armoury of the politician than that furnished by the sounding phrases of democracy. These phrases have become mere excuses, mere evasions, mere meaningless strings of canting words. They have lost their meaning. They have become threadbare with much use. They have acquired public recognition as euphemisms. When a party politician desires to intimate to his followers that a measure will not advantage his party or personal interests he calls it an undemocratic measure; when he fears it will actively damage them he condemns it as anti-democratic. Only those things may be blessed as democratic which are desirable or expedient for him.

Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George are politicians of the professional democratic class. They both make great play with the cant phrases of democracy, with appeals to the rights of the people, with clamour for popular control of Government. But both are autocrats. Neither is a real believer in the principles underlying the doctrines of human liberty. Both make use of these principles for electioneering purposes, and to secure the adherence and support of gullible party workers whom they despise.

Under these conditions the lines of opposition to the Conciliation Women's Suffrage Bill which these two Radical Ministers adopted were obviously determined beforehand. Two professing democrats could not oppose a measure extending the franchise in any direction except upon the grounds of desiring a wider measure. It is only by demanding a larger advance that a small advance can be opposed by democrats with anything approaching consistency. Being determined not to support the Bill they must demand a bigger one, thus cloaking their opposition under a show of virtuous demand for something nearer the ideal. This was the only line of action open to them. The mere fact that they knew that the Bill was not anti-democratic or undemocratic was of no account. They did not desire the Bill to pass; and the only way to stop it from passing was to attempt to rouse a gullible House and a gullible public against it.

In the House this effort was met by the reply it deserved. The House rejected the two Ministers, it rejected their interpretation of the Bill, and it replied to their challenge by an emphatic endorsement of the Bill they condemned. It was not so gullible as they expected. But of the public there is still danger. They may be misled. They must be given the same full knowledge of the true conditions, of the terms and purpose of the Bill endorsed by the House, as the members of the House were given by the preliminary work of the Conciliation

Committee. This must be done that they, too, may reject the Radical misrepresentation of the Bill and demand its immediate passing into law in the autumn session.

The first great argument for our use is the universality of support given to the Bill from all sides of the House. A Bill which has to pass by the votes of all parties must be satisfactory to all parties. That is self-evident. If the Liberals must have a Liberal Bill they must introduce one themselves and give it all the advantages of a Government measure. If they won't do this, they must abide by the conditions, as the Conservatives and Labourists have to do. The Liberals are acting the part of the dog in the manger when they will neither give us a Suffrage Bill nor allow the House to do so. This is what the young Radicals, led by Churchill and Lloyd George, are asking their party to do. This is what their party must be prevented from doing.

Our second strength is found in the universality of support given to the Bill among Women Suffragists. Every society formed to promote the enfranchisement of women has endorsed the Bill, and several great organisations which have Women's Suffrage on their programmes have done the same. Suffragists, Suffragettes, Co-operative women, Liberal women, Labour women, the men and women of the People's Suffrage Federation, including the Adult Suffrage Society among its constituent parts—all these and others have given their support to the Bill of compromise. It is a Bill that has been so carefully drafted, so well weighed and considered that all suffragists are ultimately driven to recognise that it is a practical measure, a Bill certain to pass the House of Commons, if the Government will stand out of the way.

For our third appeal to the public we must use the method of comparison. There are three other courses suggested to us by the obstruction minority. First they suggest that a complete adult suffrage measure is the only satisfactory solution. Yet the Adult Suffrage Society is willing to accept the half-way step! Its members know, even if the party politicians pretend to forget, that full adult enfranchisement is still a very long time off, and a step in that direction is all they can hope for within the next decade. One glance at the composition of the House of Commons disposes of the adult suffrage solution in a moment. It is not practical politics. The next suggestion is that all married women whose husbands are registered as voters should become voters by virtue of their wifehood. This is also not a practical suggestion. It would probably not get more than a hundred votes in the whole House. It would certainly not stand a shadow of a chance of passing the House of Lords. Besides, it is not women's suffrage at all. It does not seek to confer votes upon women, but to endow a man with another vote in virtue of his property in his wife. It would simply mean that women's votes would be under the control of men, and that a new and insidious form of masculine tyranny would be established. I could imagine the anti-suffragists working for this suggestion when once they realised its possibilities.

The third suggestion is that we should fall back upon the old Sex-Equality Bill. I am one of those who wish very strongly that we could. But I see, and those who made the suggestion see, that this is under present conditions impossible. The present House of Commons, and the next, and probably the next after that, cannot give a fair judgment upon this measure. So much wild imagining has been indulged in with regard to this Bill that the feeling on all sides of the House is against it. A House built up on the limits and expediencies of the present party system will always be suspicious of a plain statement of a great principle. When that statement of principle has been subjected to years of misinterpretation and misunderstanding it is doubly debarred from receiving fair consideration. These then are the suggestions—contradictory and impracticable. Against these we have the sure, well-supported, carefully drafted, moderate, and yet democratic Conciliation Bill which the House will pass if it is not deliberately prevented. Let these things be understood, that the Radical trick may be exposed and the Bill carried into law this session.

TERESA BILLINGTON-GREIG.

**Debenham & Freebody.**  
Wigmore Street.  
(Covendish Square) London, W.

Famous for over a Century  
for Taste for Quality for Value

**NEW KNITTED  
SILK COATS.**

The most useful garment imaginable. Suitable alike for dressy occasions and town wear as well as for the seaside, the river, travelling, outdoor sports, and foreign seaside resorts. The style and effect of a perfect fitting tailor-made garment with the comfort and warmth of a negligé wrap. In black, white, and all the newest shades, including early autumn tints. Made exclusively for Debenham & Freebody.

**72/6**  
*(as sketch)*

In longer lengths from 4 gns.  
to 6 gns.

Caps to match, 8/11

**Silkuna Coats**  
closely resembling real silk in appearance, in a wide range of fashionable shades.

**59/6**

Caps to match, 5/11

SENT ON APPROVAL.

### BRANCH NOTES.

**London Branches Council.**—1, Robert Street, Adelphi, Central Branch.

—1, Robert Street, Adelphi. The fortnightly meetings begin again in September. As there will be many important matters to be discussed at the first one, to be held on September 5th, at 7.30 p.m., it is very desirable that all members should make a special effort to be present.—E. G. T.

**Crystal Palace and Anerley District.**—149, Croydon Road.

On Monday the Church was represented at our meeting by the Rev. C. Hinscliff, who made an impressive speech which was listened to with deep interest. Unfortunately, he was obliged to rush away and was unable to take any questions. The audience was unusually shy at first, but warmed up towards the finish and would have kept Miss E. Fennings some time longer, but it was nearly 10 p.m. and we had to close. Four or five men sympathisers promised to come to the meeting at which we have arranged to discuss the formation of a committee of men, and forty copies of THE VOTE were sold.—E. M. F.

**Croydon.**—9, Morland Avenue.

The second of our meetings at South Norwood clock was most successful. Before 8 p.m. there seemed quite an air of expectancy about the many loiterers gathered near the clock, and in a few minutes four copies of THE VOTE were sold. This was no doubt partly owing to the fact that the local "News" had announced that Mr. Percy Phipps, a well-known local Liberal, was going to speak. We must also give some of the credit to three new and enthusiastic helpers who chatted in twenty-nine places. Miss E. Fennings took the chair, and a large crowd soon assembled, who listened most attentively both to her and to Mr. Phipps. The latter made an interesting and earnest speech, and appealed to the men to come to the meeting we are holding for men sympathisers. His speech made a good impression on the extreme Liberals present, and helped to disabuse them of their usual idea that we are all Tories in disguise, consequently question time was quiet. However, Miss Fennings again spoke, and late-comers were more ready to express their disapproval of the Conciliation Bill, &c. In spite of this slight opposition a resolution in favour of the Bill was carried. All our copies of THE VOTE (three dozen) were sold out and several of the Conciliation Bill, and ten more signatures of new sympathisers obtained for our book.—E. M. F.

**Manchester District.**—Miss Manning, B.A., Harper Hill, Sale, Cheshire.

**Manchester District.**—Harper Hill, Sale.

The Saturday excursions are going to be a great success. It is true the Abergele and Pensarn Urban District Councils have refused us permission to speak on the foreshores there, because, as one wise Councillor said, "If we allow one society we shall have the Suffragettes next." (By the way, do any of our members know anyone who would lend a field or a yard for a meeting in Abergele or Pensarn? We want to teach that Councillor the difference (?) between a Suffragette and a Freedom Leaguer!) Other Councils have been more kindly. At Prestatyn yesterday Miss Heyes and Miss Jones sandwiched to announce a morning meeting, and in spite of threatening weather a large crowd assembled at 11 o'clock and listened interestedly and sympathetically. Some unexpected helpers came forward and took the speakers off to dinner, and, more than that, volunteered help for an afternoon meeting in Rhyl. There a large crowd heard Miss A. Haigh, B.A., and Miss Heyes with intense appreciation. Many came as opponents—and went away owning themselves converted. Men promised their help and praised the speakers. All the literature was sold, but the demands for an evening meeting could not be gainsaid, so at 7 o'clock Miss Haigh again took the chair. Nurse Woodall (of Chester), who had arrived during the afternoon, made an excellent speech, showing how women sanitary inspectors and nurses for school clinics felt their work hampered by the lack of political power; and Miss Heyes, in spite of a very tired throat, answered many questions and closed a most successful meeting. A large crowd escorted the party to the station, and made earnest appeals for further meetings. Rhyl is awakened. Who will volunteer to continue the good work?

Unhappily, owing to lack of local helpers and the bad weather, the Liverpool Branch could not arrange the meetings they had hoped at New Brighton. We trust they are only postponed till next week. Any members who could help at Egremont or New Brighton on Saturday, the 27th, should communicate at once with me at 96, Deansgate, Manchester. The meetings arranged for Colwyn Bay, of which preliminary notice was given last week, are deferred until September 10th. This longer notice should enable helpers to communicate with Miss Heyes in good time.

Manchester (Central) Branch members held a special meeting on Thursday to consider resolutions for the General Conference. Will any members who were not present and who wish to forward resolutions let me have them before September 1st?

The members of the Urmston Branch are already making preparations for a big meeting to be held during Miss Eunice Murray's visit next month.

I shall be glad to have promises of drawing-room or cottage meetings as soon as possible. All members are asked to reserve September 15th for the Social Evening, which is to begin the Autumn Campaign.—M. I. NEAL, for MISS MANNING.

**East Anglia.**—Miss Andrews, 160, Norwich Road, Ipswich.

**Ipswich.**—160, Norwich Road. We have found many sympathisers in Felixstowe. Meetings have been held there every day this week except Thursday. Miss Elliott and I have done most of the speaking, but we were relieved on Friday by Mrs. Tippet, who cycled over from Wetherden to help us, and by Miss Jessie Adams, who kindly gave a short address. Also on Saturday we were assisted by Miss Dorothy Matthews, who spoke from a Girton girl's point of view, and by Mr. Edward Fuller, who gave reasons why men should support the enfranchisement of women. We welcomed this timely help and sympathy. On Thursday Miss Elliott and I crossed over to Dovercourt and chatted a meeting there for the afternoon. A large crowd soon gathered, and gave us a most attentive hearing. A band tried to divert the attention of the crowd, but unsuccessfully; they wanted to hear what the Suffragettes had to say. At the close of the meeting I found Miss Helen Levy and her sister amongst the audience; they had generously given up a planned cycle ride when they found we were holding a meeting. Miss Levy and Miss Elliott kindly volunteered to arrange for a meeting the following day, and as a result of this they addressed an interested audience outside "The Retreat" on Friday afternoon, and a good collection was taken. If there are any sympathisers in Dovercourt with some time to spare, will they kindly communicate with me? Miss Elliott during her fortnight's stay with us has rendered invaluable assistance in speaking, selling THE VOTE, and in many other ways. Now she has to leave us, and other help is urgently needed. Mrs. Pratt and Miss Grant have taken the chair for us, and Dr. Grant has kindly supported us at several meetings. Mrs. Gordon has helped us very much during her stay in Ipswich with the sale of THE VOTE outside the market. I regret to say we shall lose her services, as she is going elsewhere. Will any friends wishing to take part in the Pageant on October 20th send in their names at once? and will all sympathisers in the district please book the date?—CONSTANCE E. ANDREWS.

**East Sussex.**—Mrs. Dilks, 39, Milton Road, Eastbourne.

**Eastbourne.** Our activities this week have been concentrated on working up the meeting for Mrs. Despard. Sandwich parades have taken place every day. These have caused quite a sensation here, and one of the local papers gave nearly a column on the novelty. We have also done chalking most nights. Our meet-



reticence? You are not alarmed; you do not suddenly say to yourself: "Are these the women he spends his time with when he pretends to be at his office, his club, his golf-links, or his tailor's?"

You are quite tranquil on that account; you hate him for his deceit, but you know you have him safe. This is no woman of prey that he is analysing. Women of prey are more attractive; they bewilder, they ensnare, they do not leave room for dogmatism. No! This is the Woman of the novelist.

I do not mean to say that there have never been men whose views of women were founded upon actual experience, who took lines of their own and adhered to them. There have even been imaginative writers who have done this; there have been, that is to say, misogynists, as there have been women worshippers, and there have been a few men to whom the eternal feminine presents eternal problems for curiosity.

I do not recall at this moment any great novelist who has actually been a misogynist: it would indeed be a little difficult to write a novel from a misogynistic point of view, though there are several novelists who come as nearly as is possible to a pitch of altogether ignoring the Fair Sex.

(To be continued.)

### THE PSYCHOLOGY OF AN ANTI-SUFFRAGIST.

One of the things which we of the larger faith occasionally ask ourselves is, What are the faculties and manner of mind which go to the making of an Anti-Suffragist? Surely they must have a reason for their creed, difficult though it be for us to decipher it! I allude, of course, to the female "anti," for the male "anti" standpoint is plain and moreover frankly expressed. It is easy to understand that Lord Curzon, a student of the East, whose Court in India was Oriental in its magnificence, should adopt the semi-Eastern or "modified harem" standpoint, or that Lord Cromer should wish us, if not veiled, at least bridled. A colonel of my acquaintance frankly states his views as follows: "Yes; in justice women *should* have the Vote, but men will probably have a less good time when they do get it. At present men are having their innings, and as long as I can I shall help them to keep those innings, therefore I am against Woman's Suffrage." Candid but understandable, we say, for it requires a specially wide mind to put aside self-interest and to work for a measure as a measure of justice. All honour, therefore, to those men who stand shoulder to shoulder with us in the fight.

But the women, what of them? What are the causes which have led them to turn against their own sex? First and foremost I think we must place the confusion which has unhappily arisen between the use of the term "womanly" and the term "ladylike." Now womanly qualities are the finest qualities of our sex—joy, pity, tenderness, charity, motherly love, truth, and justice; these are *womanly* qualities, not *ladylike* ones. Now the female "anti" in her anxiety to be feminine fears that if she is not ladylike she will cease to be womanly. Man, she thinks, likes a ladylike woman, while she ignores that what man requires for his wife and comrade and the mother of the race is not a ladylike woman, but a womanly woman.

The female "anti" delights in making rules and laws for *other* women to keep; never for herself, be it observed, for herself she sets apart. Mrs. Humphry Ward, having spoken strongly to women to keep out of politics, did not hesitate to rush into the arena the moment her family interest was involved and to personally issue manifestoes of advice to the electors on behalf of her son. This was not even vicarious politics, but direct action. No doubt in so doing she considers she remained ladylike, while if she marked a cross on a voting paper once in four years she would become unwomanly. Speaking on an Anti-Suffragist platform, the "anti" informs us, is feminine and womanly; while speaking on a Suffrage platform is unwomanly and unsexed. In her strident platform voice the "anti" advises the Suffragist to stay and mind her home, while at the same time leaving her own

in order to carry on a political campaign, for never does the "anti" deign to apply to herself her own reasoning. Her maxims are for others, and "antis" in high places will "wire pull" to any extent for male relations.

Looking round a meeting of Anti-Suffragists the intelligent observer is at once struck by the fact that it is a meeting of the financially independent side of womanhood—women who have inherited from, or live on the earnings of, fathers, brothers, or husbands, for rarely does the "anti" earn for herself. An "anti" who insisted most strongly recently that all women should be under men's control and dominated by them was one who herself had never known the control of father, brother, husband, or male employer, and had a comfortable financial competence. Absolute ignorance of the conditions of the woman's labour market is a marked characteristic of the "anti," nor does she stop to consider the effect of the laws made by the dominant male on the sweated tailoress, the woman chain-maker who, working fourteen hours a day at the furnace, can barely earn six shillings a week, the starved machiner of blouses, or the maker of match boxes at twopence a gross and find your own paste. The Vote that would raise the standard of the hunger-wage is not to be theirs; let them tighten their belts, for the "anti" fears that a full stomach might make them unwomanly. The "anti" cheerfully assures the mother of a household that politics are no concern of hers, and tells the wife of a working man that a rise in the price of food or a dearth of employment cannot possibly affect *her*, as if indirect taxation never made a hole in housekeeping money. Then a certain number of women are "antis" because they are afflicted with what the American termed "tarnation cussedness." They are opposed to all progressive movements, they enjoy sitting in the path of progress, and are by nature obstructionists. They are of the type of mind which has consistently throughout the ages opposed such movements as the Reform Bill, the Catholic Emancipation Act, the Married Women's Property Act, and the Deceased Wife's Sister Act, predicting for the passing of each in turn that revolution which has failed to come.

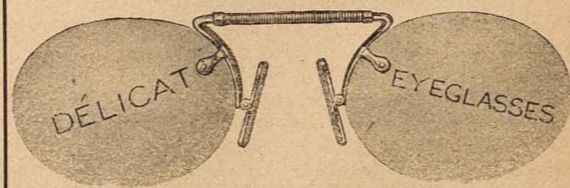
Lastly there is the "anti" who hopes that by being an "anti" men may think her "so nice and feminine" and someone may ask her to transfer the attitude of worship from man in general to man in the singular. That amusing French writer Max O'Rell is credited with a rooted objection to the idea of women doctors. In one of his books he remarks that one of the most beautiful things in the world is to see a woman supporting the head of a dying soldier! A touching picture, no doubt, but if instead of wiping the warrior's clammy brow that woman should by her surgical skill be competent to stop the hæmorrhage and save the soldier's life—oh, how unwomanly!

H. L. H.

Jane Addams says:

"City housekeeping has failed partly because women, the traditional housekeepers, have not been consulted as to its multifarious activities."

### WHY WEAR HEAVY EYEGLASSES?



The "DELICAT" Invisible Eyeglasses are the daintiest and lightest eye wear yet manufactured, being suitable for all forms of lenses, including Astigmatic; the mounts are self-adjusting, consequently the lenses always set in a horizontal position before the eyes.

COMPLETE WITH LENSES IN ROLLED GOLD 17/6; IN GOLD 25/-

Orders by post should be accompanied with an old pair of spectacles or eye-glasses, together with Cheque or M.O., crossed "& Co."

**P. A. PRESTON, Eyesight Specialist,**  
130, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

### WOMAN—THE SPOILT CHILD OF THE LAW.

The funeral was over, the baked meats consumed, but the mourners still lingered round the polished mahogany table, in appreciative enjoyment of the excellent port and madeira for which the cellar of the late Joshua Goodson was famed.

"I presume, Mr. Monro," said the chief mourner, Peter Goodson, brother of the deceased, "that you will now read the will." The lawyer rose, adjusted his spectacles, and, drawing a couple of blue documents from his bag, said in a very Scotch accent: "I regret to inform you, sir, that the late Mr. Joshua Goodson, has apparently willed his entire estate away from his wife and family. I have here the will drawn up by me shortly after his marriage by which the property is left to his wife in trust for the children, and I also have here a will made about eighteen months ago, drawn up by a lawyer in Manchester, delivered at my office yesterday by special messenger. By this I find this house and the entire fortune has been left to a Miss Hannah Lightman and her two illegitimate children."

A gasp of amazement and horror went round the table. Peter Goodson dropped the cigar he was smoking, and his jaw fell forward.

"Good heavens, man, I shall dispute the will!"

"I fear, sir, that will be useless. The new will is quite in order, duly signed and witnessed. I find on inquiry that Mr. Goodson was in good health and attending business regularly; the sum of one shilling is left to the wife. Yes, sir, the law of England allows such a will, though I am thankful to say in my country such a thing could not happen."

The mourners rose from the table in an angry hum of conversation. Relatives from a distance were scandalised and

amazed; local guests expressed little surprise. Leyton-town knew as much of the private life of her citizens as other self-respecting boroughs, and the vices of Joshua Goodson had been in no wise so secret as he thought.

The widow sat alone in the ugly, expensive drawing-room. She had been crying, for, although her married life had been a nightmare of horror, and she had often prayed for release from her great misery, now that he was dead, the idealising of the departed had begun, the years of torture were forgotten; she remembered the early days of their courtship, when she had loved and trusted him.

In a few short words the lawyer told her of the will that cut her and her children off from the wealth and affluence in which they had lived.

"Surely," she said, quietly, "it cannot be. The law of England cannot allow such a wrong. I have been his wife forty years, all the children are in poor circumstances, and money would be a god-send to them. Poor Jem went to New Zealand after that great row with his father, and my poor girls married anyone to get away from home. Surely the law will not permit the whole fortune to pass to a discharged housemaid and her illegitimate children?"

"I deeply regret to have to tell you that English law does permit it."

Mrs. Goodson was silent. She knew, as wives do know,

that her husband had only been faithful to her through the first year of marriage, but she remembered well the day when she first became aware that an intrigue was going on in her house, and how after rigid economies in the house-keeping money she had paid the girl a month's wages and bade her begone. The girl at first refused insolently, but the timid little woman had stood firm, and the threat of the police had at length driven her off. She trembled still as she remembered the scene of violence that followed—the swearing, the blows, the cruel words, and the look on her husband's face as he flung from the room.

"You beastly woman, I'll make you smart for this!" "It is a scoundrelly action," said Peter. "We must see what we can do. Perhaps the woman can be made to feel that something must be paid over to you."

"No, no!" cried the widow, shrinking. "I will take nothing. I am a good cook and needle-woman. Jem writes that housekeepers are wanted out in New Zealand; I will go out there. Never fear but that I can earn my own living. I will be a burden to no one."

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

### RAILWAY ECONOMY.

The Great Central Railway contemplates the employ-

ment of young women as telegraphists. If the experiment is successful a considerable number of women telegraphists will probably be engaged instead of male operators. *The change is being made from motives of economy.* For some time past some of the large French railways have employed women booking clerks, and it is suggested that the introduction of female telegraphists in this country may lead later on to the employment of women booking clerks on some of the British railways.—*The Times.*



Photo by George E. Pratt.

CARAVAN (No. 2) AT FELIXSTOWE.

MRS. G. PRATT, MISS ELLIOTT, MISS ANDREWS, DR. GRANT, AND MISS GRANT.

### National Health Society.

The National Health Society, 53, Berners Street, Oxford Street, London, W., is making arrangements for special courses of lectures for women, commencing in September. These courses of training lectures are for women who wish to obtain the certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Board or to qualify as teachers of the laws of health and sanitary subjects under the County Council scheme of technical education, or as lady lecturers, or in preparation for hospital training. The training course consists of lectures, held in the Society's rooms, on elementary anatomy and physiology, first aid in accident or disease, elementary nursing, domestic and personal hygiene, the care of infants and children, and elocution, in addition to sanitation and public health and the other requirements of the Sanitary Inspector's examination. Full particulars and syllabus can be obtained from the Secretary of the N.H.S.

### Alderman Ritchie on Women Doctors.

In dealing with cases of persons found wandering in the City apparently of unsound mind, a woman doctor attended before Sir T. J. Ritchie at the Mansion House to give evidence as to their mental condition. The Alderman remarked, "I am very glad to see a lady doctor here. I am sure they act just as well, and just as efficiently, and perhaps more humanely, than ordinary medical men."

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

## LONDON.



DARE TO BE FREE.

- Thurs., August 25.**—Highbury Corner, 8 p.m. Miss Neilans.  
Finchley (Percy Road, Tally-ho Corner), 8 p.m. Miss Pell.  
Acton Market Place, 8 p.m. Mrs. Wheatley.
- Fri., August 26.**—South Norwood Clock, 8 p.m. Miss Ethel Fennings, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, Mr. John Simpson.
- Sun., August 28.**—Finsbury Park, 11.30. Miss Pell.  
Regent's Park, 12. Mrs. Manson.  
Victoria Park, 3 p.m.
- Mon., August 29.**—Hornsey Fire Station, 8 p.m. Miss Neilans.  
Tram Terminus, Crystal Palace, 8 p.m. Miss Ethel Fennings and Mr. Norman Leisk.
- Tues., August 30.**—Hampstead Heath, 7.45. Miss Fennings.  
Highbury Corner, 8 p.m. Miss Coyle.
- Thurs., Sept. 1.**—Finchley (Percy Road, Tally-ho Corner), 8 p.m. Highbury Corner.  
London Branches Council, 1, Robert Street, 6.45 p.m.  
Acton Market Place. Mrs. Manson.  
Clapham Members' Meeting, 31, Rush Hill Road, 8 p.m.
- Fri., Sept. 2.**—South Norwood Clock, 8 p.m. Miss Ethel Fennings.
- Sat., Sept. 3.**—National Executive Committee, 1, Robert Street, 11 a.m.
- Sun., Sept. 4.**—Finsbury Park, 11. Mrs. Sproson.  
Regent's Park, 12.  
Victoria Park, 3. Mrs. Sproson.
- Mon., Sept. 5.**—Hornsey Fire Station.  
1, Robert Street, Central Branch meeting, 7.30.
- Sat., Sept. 24.**—Beckenham Town Hall. The Pageant. Afternoon and evening.
- Bexhill.**
- PROVINCES.**
- Mon., August 22.**—Near Kursaal, 5.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Miss Anna Munro. Chair, Mrs. Strickland.
- Thurs., August 25.**—Near Kursaal, 5.30 p.m. Mrs. Hicks and others.
- Portsmouth.**
- Mon., August 29.**—Town Hall Square, 7.45 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Whetton.
- Eastbourne.**
- Tues., August 30.**—The Beach, west of Eastern Bandstand, 7.30 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Francis.

## 101 POINTS IN FAVOUR OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

*These points will cover the legal, social, and economic grounds on which women demand the vote, and will call attention to the glaring inconsistencies which demand a change in the present condition of the franchise.*

**30.**—From the Bible arguments are falsely drawn to prove woman's subservience to man. If arguments from this source are allowed to have weight, it is noteworthy that the beginning of the record says: "In the image of God created He him, male and female created He them, and God said: Let *them* have dominion over all the earth."

Thus equality was, according to Biblical documents, the first condition of the two, and only after the Fall is the Creator supposed to have warned Adam that even Nature should rebel against his animal life, and "The earth shall bring forth thorns and thistles," and the woman was told that in this lower life with her husband she would be continually worsted. "Thy desire shall be to thy husband and he shall rule over thee."

"But the whole effort of Christ was to restore to mankind what was lost in Adam. 'For as in Adam all die, so in Christ shall all be made alive.' If Christianity is completely to restore that which was lost in Adam, how can it stop short of completely abolishing the subordination of woman, which the Bible declares to be the direct result of sin, and of leading us back to that Edenic proclamation, 'Let them have dominion over all the earth'?"—BISHOP J. W. BASHFORD (U.S.A.).

## THE FALLING BIRTH-RATE.

There is a certain class of people who are heard to say that the decrease in the birth-rate has some connection with the emancipation of women. The following paragraph from an article headed "The Children of the Church" has some significance: "It is only necessary, moreover, to glance through the advertisements of any Church paper to see that in religious circles, as in most others, children are all too frequently looked upon as 'encumbrances.' Just at this time of the year vicars who are planning to take a holiday advertise for locum tenens to fill their places while they are away, and the following advertisement will be found to be absolutely typical of them all:—

"Locum Tenens wanted for four weeks. Small church; pretty country; garden. Moderate views. *No children.*—B. C., Vicarage, &c."—*Cassell's Saturday Journal.*

## SUFFRAGIST RALLY IN BOURNEMOUTH.

On September 10th, the anniversary of the death of this authoress, it is proposed to hold a Mary Wollstonecraft commemoration meeting in Bournemouth, at which Mrs. Despard will speak. Will all Suffragists, men and women, who are interested in the matter communicate at once with Mrs. Borrmann Wells, who appeals for donations towards expenses, hospitality for an organiser in the district, and help generally to make the meeting a success. Further particulars appear elsewhere in THE VOTE.

THE  
UNITED VACUUM CLEANER  
COMPANY, LTD.,

48, Palace St., Westminster, S.W.,

## CLEAN EVERYTHING.

DRESSES, BLOUSES, FEATHERS,  
&c., CLEANED OR DYED.

SATISFACTORY RESULTS GUARANTEED.

Carpets, Curtains, and Furniture cleaned at  
your own house without removal, or collected,  
cleaned at our works, and delivered within  
24 hours.

ESTIMATES FREE.

Telephone 4320 } Gerrard.  
1774 }

Estab. 1850. Floral Artists to H.R.H. The Princess Christian. Phone 2324 Padd.

**CHARLES WOOD & SON**  
(Successor CHAS. H. W. WOOD).  
23, HIGH ST., MANCHESTER SQUARE,  
LONDON, W.

Every Variety of Floral Work in Town or Country. The Choicest Selection of Cut Flowers and Plants.  
Orders by post receive prompt attention.

Estimates Free. Window Boxes, &c.