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# THE VOTE

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

VOL. IV. No. 85.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10, 1911.

ONE PENNY.

## NOTICE.

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

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

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## EDITORIAL.

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

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## OUR POINT OF VIEW.

### The Women's Enfranchisement Bill.

The position with regard to the Women's Enfranchisement Bill has made no material change since last week. All true friends of the Bill—including prominent Government organs like *The Manchester Guardian* and *The Daily News*—expressed profound dissatisfaction with Mr. Asquith's reply to our demand for facilities. The Conciliation Committee met almost immediately, and passed certain resolutions which are given on another page. At a dinner given to Mr. Andrew Carnegie at the National Liberal Club on June 1, Sir Edward Grey, with the no doubt laudable intention of throwing oil upon the troubled waters gave quite a different view from that generally taken of the Government intentions with regard to our Bill. But we are still far from being assured of the Cabinet's honesty of purpose. If we are sceptical it is past experience which has made us so. And those who will not learn from experience are incapable of imbibing knowledge from any source whatever.

### Government Betrayal.

The whole history of the suffrage movement discovers on the side of the women an almost incredible confidence in Parliamentary promises in spite of continual betrayal, and on the part of the Government of the day an oft-repeated treachery and utter lack of scruple. To trust the enemy is to court defeat. How can we be expected to think otherwise when dealing with Ministers who, at any rate where Woman Suffrage is concerned, believe in never doing to-day what it may be possible to put off till to-morrow? Who can prophesy with certainty that any "to-morrow" will dawn for the Government now in office? Sudden dissolutions of Parliament are not particularly rare in the history of this country. And the women who have

worked so strenuously in the Suffrage agitation do not intend to risk their Bill to the fortuitous events of a possible future. Our Bill has passed a triumphant second reading this Session. If it be allowed to take its course the time necessary for the completion of all its stages will be much less than in any subsequent Session. Nobody—not even their own followers—believes that the pressure on Government time will be less next year than this. And since even Mr. Asquith, reluctantly or otherwise, must at last yield to the inevitable, why should he not even now behave a little graciously towards a Bill which suffragists intend shall pass into law this Session? Our claim is indefeasible; our determination indefatigable.

### Temperance and the Suffrage.

In the course of an interview with a member of THE VOTE staff the other day, the professor of political economy at the largest women's college in America—Smith's—made some interesting disclosures with reference to the cause in the United States. It was owing to the all-absorbing interest displayed in the suffrage movement by the students in his college that he had decided to spend the long vacation in studying the question in Europe. The professor himself was not only a firm believer in the justice, but also in the wisdom, of Woman Suffrage. Election day in the States where women are unenfranchised was usually made an excuse for an orgy of drunkenness: but in the States where women voted, men, accompanied by their wives and daughters, went to the poll in as quiet and orderly a manner as they would were they going to church. If on no other grounds than those of law and order, the American professor considered it would still be worth while to concede the franchise to women. In this connection it is interesting to note that for many years past the National British Women's Temperance Association have passed, almost with unanimity, resolutions calling upon the Government to extend the Parliamentary franchise to women without further delay.

### International Congress.

The Congress of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance which meets this year at Stockholm, opens on June 11. In view of the fact that Women's Suffrage Bills commanding very strong support are at present before the British and Swedist Parliaments, this year's Congress should prove particularly interesting. Proceedings will start with a sermon by the well-known American woman minister, Dr. Anna Shaw, in the Church of Gustave Vasa. A women's choir and a woman organist will officiate. The effect of Women's Suffrage on the economic condition of women in those countries which have already adopted it, and the relation of the suffrage movement to political parties in the unenfranchised countries are two of the most important subjects which the Conference will discuss. With regard to the latter question we feel confident that the Congress will decide that until the women of a country are enfranchised, the only logical attitude for Suffragists to adopt is that of working for no party until justice is done to women.

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**AT HEADQUARTERS.**

Our Hon. Treasurer is appealing for money, but I want to point out that the need for voluntary workers is equally urgent. If every member will realise this and come to the rescue, our part of the Women's Great Procession on June 17 and our Kensington Town Hall meeting will be the greatest successes in the annals of the Women's Freedom League. Speakers, and those willing to take the chair, are wanted for the open-air meetings which Miss Neilans is organising in London. Supporters who will sell THE VOTE and distribute our new handbills are needed at all these meetings. Those willing to help are invited to call at the office or send in their names at once to Miss Neilans.

Mrs. Fisher is making up her list of stewards for the Procession and the Kensington Town Hall meeting. Will all those from Scotland, Wales and the Provinces who are willing to steward send in their names to her immediately? Those in London who have not yet communicated with Mrs. Fisher are asked to do so without delay, for we cannot possibly have too many stewards.

**"At Homes."**

There will only be two more Caxton Hall "At Homes" this season. Thursday, June 8, the chair will be taken by Miss Sidley at 3.30, and the speaker will be Miss Alison Neilans. Thursday, June 15, we shall have the opportunity of listening to Mrs. Nevinson.

**"Gardenia" Meetings.**

Special invitation cards have been issued for the meeting at the "Gardenia," Friday, June 9, when Miss Mary Macarthur will lecture on "Women in Industry." The chair will be taken by Mrs. How Martyn at 8 o'clock and full opportunity will be given for discussion. Particulars of further meetings at the "Gardenia" will appear in next week's VOTE. Invitation cards for June 9 meeting can be had from this office.

**Kensington Town Hall Meeting, June 17, at 8 p.m.**

We have a specially attractive programme. Mrs. How Martyn will be in the chair, and short speeches will be given by Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nevinson, Miss Jack, Mrs. Francis, Mrs. Dickenson, Miss Roper, B.A., and Miss Eva Gore-Booth. All those wishing to make sure of a seat at this meeting are urged to purchase their tickets without delay, and those having unsold tickets are requested to return them to this office not later than June 12. Payment will be expected for all tickets retained after that date.

E. A. UNDERWOOD.

**CAXTON HALL "AT HOME."**

Last Thursday's audience assembled early to learn the views of the Freedom League with regard to Mr. Asquith's answer to our demand for facilities for the Women's Bill this Session, and also to welcome Miss Andrews on her release from prison.

Mrs. How Martyn, who presided, spoke of the splendid protests against the tyranny of taxation without representation made by Mrs. Sproson at Wolverhampton and Miss Andrews at Ipswich. On behalf of the Freedom League Mrs. How Martyn then presented Miss Andrews with the Leagues' badge of honour—the medal earned by those members who have suffered imprisonment for the sake of the Cause. The political situation was then dealt with, and the worthlessness of the pledge for so-called facilities explained. The Women's Freedom League would continue to protest strongly against any legislation taking precedence of the Women's Suffrage Bill.

Miss Andrews, who, upon rising to speak, was greeted with a storm of applause, said that Suffragettes had sometimes to do disagreeable things in order to attract public attention to the disabilities under which women at present laboured. She herself had refused to pay her dog licence. As before doing so she had given all her worldly goods to her sister, she possessed nothing that

could be distrained upon for the amount due, and had been sent to prison for seven days. Although nominally in the second division Miss Andrews had been treated as a political prisoner. She had been allowed to wear her own clothes, to read what books she chose, and to have her food sent in from outside. For all these privileges she had to thank the women who had gone before—especially those Suffragettes who by the hunger strike had protested against prison treatment and had suffered the unspeakable tortures of forcible feeding. One of the first things women would do when the vote was won was to work for prison reform.

Miss Tite spoke of the Women's Procession, June 17. It would be five miles long, walking seven abreast, and would be more striking and interesting than the Coronation procession. The Women's Freedom League were anxious to make a good show and do credit to the Cause. Nothing could be done without money, and the speaker made an earnest appeal for generous support.

**LITERATURE DEPARTMENT.**

"Votes for Women and the Public Health," price 1d., by Dr. L. Haden Guest, is our newest pamphlet and is probably the only one of the kind in which a male medical practitioner writes in this way:—

A doctor, after a little experience, comes to realise that the woman is the expert on home conditions, on practical details of clothing and feeding, and on all that has to do with home life and the rearing of children. . . . But while women who make and guide home life have no effective means of enforcing their views on these matters, the men, who are largely uninformed on them, have votes, and so decide what laws shall regulate the home. This state of things causes legislation and administration to be formal and artificial, instead of real and human.

**NATIONAL FUND.**

**Branch and District Funds not Included.**

Amount previously acknowledged, October, 1907, to December, 1910, £11,595 3s. 2d.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Amount previously acknowledged	1,512 19 3	Mrs. Presbury	0 3 0
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Caravan Donation	8 0 0	Mrs. C. Linsell	1 10 0
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Mrs. Coates Hansen (travelling expenses refused)	2 6 0	Mrs. Bastian	1 0 0
Miss C. Tite (collected)	2 0 0	R. H. Pott, Esq.	1 0 0
Miss Cicely Hamilton	1 0 0	Mrs. A. Schofield	—
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Miss K. O'Halloran	0 10 0	Mrs. Counter	0 2 0
Political and Militant Department		Miss M. Reeve	0 3 0
Per Miss Munro		Mrs. Tritton	0 2 6
Anonymous	0 5 0	Mrs. Livingstone	0 2 6
Miss Munro	0 2 6	Per Miss C. Tite	—
Per Miss Sidley		Mrs. G. Tite	0 5 0
Tickets and Collections		Tottenham Branch	1 1 0
Ipswich	1 13 3	Hampstead Branch	2 0 0
Per Miss Neilans		Mid London Branch	3 0 0
Collected	0 1 0	Highbury Branch	1 0 0
Ipswich	0 7 4	For Procession Banners	—
Per Mrs. Sutcliffe		Sale Branch	0 8 6
Mrs. Goodrich (Census)	0 5 0	Wellingborough Branch	0 8 6
Drawing-room Meetings		Tottenham Branch	0 8 6
Per Miss Fenings		Hackney Branch	0 8 6
Mrs. Hoare	0 2 2	Marlow Branch	0 8 6
Miss Bisset-Smith	0 4 0	Mrs. Bastian, for Had-	—
		leigh Branch	0 8 6
		Collections and Sales	—
		London	12 10 2
		Total	£1,574 12 11

**WOMAN'S LEGAL POSITION IN OTHER LANDS.**

**I.—IN BURMA.**

Under the above heading an Indian barrister has kindly consented to write specially for THE VOTE a series of articles, the first of which appears this week. It will be noted that the legal position of the Burmese woman is, in almost every respect, superior to that of woman under the law in free (?) England.—ED.

The agitation for Women's Franchise in England and other parts of Europe is but a step—a very important and essential step—towards woman's realisation of her personality. A woman is bound by the laws of being, growth, and destiny exactly in the same way, and to the same extent, as a man. This great truth, which has not yet been fully grasped, much less realised, in Europe, was placed in the forefront of the teachings of Gautama—the Buddha (enlightened) of India. He did not elevate the position of the wife, but that of the woman, by emancipating her from the perpetual tutelage to which she was condemned by men, and placing her destiny in her own hands, dependent on her own individual exertion. His teaching shaped the legal rights and duties of woman.

**Equality in Marriage.**

A study of the legal rights of a Burmese woman would show that her position is superior to that of her sisters all over the world. And it is interesting to remember that the advanced laws are actually administered in Burma to-day by Englishmen. I shall here briefly summarise the laws relating to marriage, divorce, property, and inheritance. Marriage is a civil contract, for which no particular form or ceremony is essential. The status of marriage may be proved by any trustworthy evidence. As a rule, the contract is entered into by majors, but a minor girl could be given away by her parents or guardian, subject to her right of repudiating the marriage on attaining majority in case she does not like the husband. Cohabitation is not essential, although it is encouraged by giving the wife a greater interest in the husband's property. A wife can lawfully chastise her husband in the same way as he can. "If a husband is foolish, lazy, lustful, ignorant, &c.," she can chastise him and turn him out for his bad conduct. Marriage, in short, is a partnership on terms of equality.

**Economic Independence of Wife.**

Property belonging to husband or wife before marriage undergoes no change of ownership. Property acquired by either after marriage through their ingenuity, skill, business, &c., is joint property. One party cannot alienate it without the express or implied consent of the other. Property inherited by the husband from his ancestors is shared by his wife, "because while she lives with her husband she has a joint interest in all the household concerns, and the property might have been wasted if the wife did not do her share in taking care of it." The profits which arise from the husband's separate property, trade or business are regarded as joint, because a wife is understood to be managing the domestic affairs of her husband, and thereby giving him leisure to attend to his business and enabling him to do it more efficiently. But if the wife lives apart she would not be so entitled, as she would not be contributing to the domestic economy. A woman can carry on her trade or business during her married life. Her position is one of economic independence.

**Laws Relating to Divorce.**

Divorce is very much like a dissolution of partnership. If the parties agree to separate, there is no difficulty: the marriage is dissolved. When both parties are not willing, one may obtain divorce from the village elders after signing an agreement to separate. Of course, a marriage cannot be dissolved at the mere will or caprice of only one of the parties. The grounds of divorce are several, including desertion, ill-treatment, infidelity. In addition to these, if the husband is a drunkard, a gambler or a seducer, and will not be

advised, the wife has the right to divorce. In spite of divorces being easy and cheap, the opinion of those who know the Burmese best is that they are not very common. When the divorce is by mutual consent, each party takes his or her separate property, the joint property being divided equally; and the husband takes the male and the wife the female children. When it is caused by the serious fault of either party the defaulter forfeits all right to the joint property. Of course, each party is free to marry again after the divorce. Husband and wife are heirs to each other. In the absence of children, the surviving partner succeeds to the entire property, both separate and joint. The eldest son, as well as the eldest daughter, has superior rights in the inheritance, but the other children participate equally.

**Freedom and Responsibility.**

The above is sufficient to illustrate the equality of the sexes under the Burmese law. Inequality and arbitrary restrictions obstruct the growth of good conduct, which is all-important in Buddhism. Said Gautama: "Living beings receive the results of their own conduct. Their conduct forms their inheritance, their birth, their relationship, their circumstances in life. Conduct apportions to living beings eternal bliss or misery." Equality of rights and opportunities for all, regardless of sex, colour, or creed, is indispensably necessary to the growth and perfection of human civilisation. Greater freedom imposes greater responsibility; greater responsibility fosters nobler character. The demand for Women's Suffrage is a demand for freedom in the best interests of humanity and man's emancipation and progress.

B. DUBÉ.

**CORRESPONDENCE.**

\* \* Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

DEAR MADAM,—Just think of the grand effect it would have if every woman suffragist made a point of always wearing her "Votes for Women" button. There are many of us who cannot take an active part in the work, but we can all be true to our colours and advance the cause in this manner. If only all suffragists realised the great importance of demonstrating the strength of numbers in our movement they would not neglect "the wearin' of the badge." Forgetfulness is often given as an excuse, but the best way to get over this difficulty is to have a badge on every coat or dress.—Yours, "THE WEARIN' OF THE BADGE."

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### ON MY LIBRARY TABLE. IN HOLY RUSSIA!

One of the fundamental mysteries which has perplexed the thinkers of all ages and which will never be solved on this planet is that strange thing which, for want of a better name, we call "character." Character may be defined as the natural and peculiar expression of mind which differentiates a man (or woman) from his fellows. Being absolutely inherent, it is the result neither of training nor circumstance; though both may have a certain influence on its formation; and its translation into concrete action is assuredly dependent on the latter. Sometimes it is found that great potentialities for good and evil exist in one and the same being; but the majority of people neither transcend the eternal heights nor sink to the fathomless depths, but are content to walk the level plains of mediocrity. Nevertheless, the angels and fiends that tread the earth disguised are greater in number than is commonly supposed. And it would be a great mistake to confine our search for these opposites to the well-known philanthropists or common murderers. Under the sleek and polished exterior of a high official may lurk a cruelty from which Satan himself might recoil; and hidden from view under the garb of the commonality burns many a heart with a passionate love for humanity that would dazzle Gabriel by the purity of its glow. Perhaps nowhere in the world can these two types be so readily found as in that beautiful and fascinating but infinitely cruel country—"holy" Russia. Whether the soil itself—its atmosphere and geographical position—be responsible for the existing state of affairs; or whether it is that a passion for liberty and the enormous capacity for self-immolation which the possession of the faculty usually engenders be the direct consequence of a stupendous effort of Nature to restore a moral equilibrium, can only be a matter of conjecture; but certain it is that for generations past the utterly divergent products of tyranny and compassion have flourished side by side with extraordinary fecundity. In "The Red Symbol" this fact is exemplified in a manner which not only convinces us of its truth, but maintains our interest to the end.

#### A Thrilling Story.

As its name suggests, the Red Symbol is the badge of one of those secret revolutionary societies which are bound to exist in plenty in any country whose government is openly and avowedly autocratic as in Russia. And any story dealing with the workings of such an organisation, if at all skilfully handled, is sure to be at least thrilling. Although given to understand that "The Red Symbol" is a first novel, the fact is not betrayed by the book itself, which is the work of a born story-teller. From start to finish we are carried breathlessly along. The theme, to be sure, is very hackneyed; but the telling of the tale is quite fresh. It is a treat, too, to find the revolutionary characters depicted as real people, and not, as is generally the case in a story of this description, as the distorted figments of the author's brain. Mr. Ironside evidently knows his Russia, and has doubtless frequently met the types he so admirably portrays.

#### A Fateful Letter.

The principal characters in the story are Maurice Wynn, a young American journalist, and Anne Pendennis, daughter of an English father and a Polish mother who had been outrageously treated by the Russian Government. Anne is a cosmopolitan, travelling from country to country with her father the whole year round, and scarcely ever setting foot in England. When the story opens, however, she is on a visit to Maurice's sister, Mary Cayley, an old school friend now living in London. It is at Mary's house that Maurice and Anne meet, with the result that Maurice falls passionately in love with

\* "The Red Symbol." By John Ironside. (Eveleigh Nash. 2s. net.)

Anne, who, he hopes, returns his affection. After a very short sojourn in England Anne departs hurriedly for the Continent in consequence of a letter from her father. Maurice arranges to see her in Berlin on his way to Petersburg, whither his business will take him a few days later. On arriving at the German capital, Wynn finds that Anne has never been there. Which event, taken in conjunction with certain others, forces Maurice to a conclusion which torments him beyond measure. Some weeks later, whilst taking a stroll along the Ismailskai Prospekt, Maurice has an experience which almost reduces him to despair:—

Suddenly a droshki dashed along at a pace that appeared even swifter than the breakneck rate at which the Russian droshki driver loves to urge his horses along. Just as it was passing me one of the horses slipped on the cobble stones, and came down with a crash.

There was the usual moment of confusion, as the driver objurgated vociferously, after the manner of his class, and a man jumped out of the vehicle and ran to the horse's head.

I stood still to watch the little incident—there was no need for my assistance, for the clever little beast had already regained his footing.

Then a startling thing occurred. A woman's voice rang out in an agonised cry, in which fear and joy were strangely blended.

"Maurice! Maurice Wynn! Help—save me!" On the instant the man sprang back into the droshki and it was off on its mad career again; but in that instant I had caught a glimpse of a white face—the gleam of bright hair—and knew that it was Anne—Anne herself—who had been so near me, and was now being whirled away.

#### The Great Revolution.

The remainder of the story is an account of Maurice's search for Anne, and of the painful and dangerous experiences he encounters in the quest. It would not be fair to reveal the plot, but it may be stated that Maurice and Anne come together again in the end. Before that happens, however, Wynn is introduced to the inside of a Russian prison, from which he emerges only half alive. He also takes part in the great revolutionary outbreak of 1905, witnesses the wholesale murder of the people by the Cossack soldiers, and sees one woman—whom he believes to be his beloved—carried off:—

"They tore her clothes from her," screamed a woman above the din. "They are beating her to death with their nagaiikas! Mother of mercy—that such things should be!"

#### For Liberty's Sake.

That such things should be! Yet Maurice knows that the revolutionists consider that which they are fighting for to be well worth the price paid. Anne herself has never grudged it:—

I stood staring at her, stricken dumb by her unearthly beauty. I knew what was in her mind at that moment—the thought that all had not been in vain, that the long struggle was almost ended, with victory in sight, with freedom for the oppressed, cessation of bloodshed, a gradual return to law and order, the patient building up of a new civilisation.

Militant Suffragists who read "The Red Symbol" will feel with me that the price demanded for our own liberty is little indeed when compared with that which is being exacted from our sisters in Russia.

M. SLEEVE MCGOWAN.

#### WOMEN AND THE ETHICAL SOCIETY.

The West London Ethical Society recently appointed one of its women members to serve, subject to the Registrar-General's consent, as an authorised person for the performance of the marriage ceremony. The Registrar-General has, however, refused to sanction the appointment, on the ground that women are held to be ineligible to register marriages. The actual legal requirements for a marriage in a registered church having authorised persons are: (1) The administering of a set formula in the course of the ceremony, to be repeated by the contracting parties; and (2) the registration of the marriage in the prescribed books, and transmission of a copy of the entries to the local Superintendent-Registrar. Now, the law permits anybody, man or woman, to administer the formula, provided an authorised person is present and hears it said; but only a man may be allowed to take the latter responsibility. It is surely time that this foolish anomaly was removed.—*The Ethical World.*

### WHY WE WANT THE VOTE: THE JOURNALIST.

(Continued from page 69.)

As to the question of the value of the Parliamentary franchise to individuals and to classes, I was much impressed by the splendid speech delivered by Sir Richard Solomon at the Authors' Club dinner a few weeks back (on May 8) on the subject of the native problem in South Africa, with especial reference to the extraordinary advantages possessed by the natives of Cape Colony, who have always enjoyed the franchise, subject to certain obligations and tests of efficiency, over their brethren in the other three States that compose the Union, where "the colour bar" is inexorably maintained, and only Europeans are registered as voters.

I cannot resist quoting one especially illuminative and important passage in its entirety:—

"It is, however, the admission of the natives to the franchise, or their exclusion from it, which must determine the status and rights, privileges and obligations of those natives and coloured persons who are living under the direct control of Parliament. Their admission to the franchise does, whatever may be the objections thereto, ensure the representation of their interests, and exerts a considerable influence upon legislation affecting them. Hence the difference between the Cape Province and the other Provinces of the Union in the taxation, education, and general treatment of the natives. In the Cape Province the only direct taxation of natives is a hut tax of 10s. for each hut occupied; in the Transvaal there is a poll tax of £2 (rising in some cases to £3) per head of the adult male native population, with some exceptions not necessary to refer to, as well as fees or passes; in the Orange Free State there is a poll tax of £1 per head, and in Natal a poll tax of 10s. per head and a hut tax of 14s. for every occupied hut, with the result that the 950,000 natives in the Transvaal pay something like £700,000 a year in direct taxation, whereas the 1,600,000 natives in the Cape Province only pay about £120,000. Notwithstanding this disparity in taxation the amount of Government grants to the education of natives and coloured persons in the Cape Province, including the Transkeian territories, is approximately £100,000 per annum, while in the Transvaal it is under £20,000 and in Natal and the Orange Free States (whose coloured population is small in comparison with that of the other Provinces) about £12,000 and £5,000 respectively. The Cape Province is the only Province which is free from harassing Pass Laws (except in the Transkeian territories, in which natives are required to have passes for leaving or entering those territories) and from regulations with regard to the use of tramcars, railway carriages, and footpaths by coloured persons. I express no opinion on the merits or demerits of these different systems. I only state facts to show that the admission of natives and coloured persons to the political franchise influences the character of the legislation which more particularly applies to them."

If "natives" and "colour bar" one substitutes "women" and "sex bar," it seems to me that Sir Richard Solomon's speech stands as one of the strongest arguments for the enfranchisement of women.

The many assertions made of late by the opponents of Women's Suffrage that the majority of women do not want the vote are natural and inevitable. No great reformation was ever carried out save in the face of determined and long-sustained hostility. What was the attitude of the pagan world towards the little band of reformers who set out to preach the doctrine of Jesus Christ? A seemingly weak and small minority indeed was that band; every original member of it perished by martyrdom, but the blood of the martyrs was the seed of the Church. That Church grew and flourished, vanquishing in turn the pride of Rome, the terror of the Northern barbarism, marching onward through the centuries till to-day, despite all internal conflicts and divisions, despite the new struggle against the revival of pagan thought and morals on which it has entered, Christianity is the greatest and most vital fact and force in the civilised world.

A smaller but not less significant instance which belongs to our own time is that when men's franchise was extended to include practically every householder and lodger, the great majority of labourers did not want the vote, and actually did not exercise it until the last few years, when they had learnt its value, and realised that it rendered them a power in the State.

The great number of women who at present are averse from, or indifferent to, the enfranchisement of their sex represent two familiar but extremely diverse types. The majority are "old-fashioned women," often individually very kindly and gentle but unconsciously selfish creatures. Those of the upper class usually possess independent means, live easy, com-

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**Ostrich Feather Boas,**  
10/6 to 25 gns.

**Marabout Feather  
Stoles.**

**Wide Satin Scarves.**



fortable, sheltered lives, and take no interest whatever in poor humanity in general and their sister-women in particular. "Don't tell me anything; I don't want to discuss such things" is their shibboleth if anyone attempts to rouse their interest in the great, strenuous, suffering world outside their own narrow and placid existence. Poorer women of this same type—many of them poorest of the poor—have neither the intelligence nor the time to consider the question, and are unable to realise how their position would be improved if once they were raised from nonentities to persons of some account in the State, as they would be the moment they were entitled to a Parliamentary vote. They just accept things as they are, and struggle on with patience and endurance that are nothing less than heroic.

The residue of feminine "Anti-suffragists" consists of those decadents whom Olive Schreiner has scathingly stigmatised as "parasite women," belonging mainly to the upper and the wealthy middle classes, a type that is a disgrace to the nation; but an unimportant type nevertheless—one that cannot exist for any length of time, and that therefore need not be considered seriously.

In our fight for the enfranchisement of our sex our strongest weapon is the fact that we do not fight for ourselves. If we get the vote at once, during this present Session of Parliament, I doubt if any one of us will reap any personal advantage. But that is a very small matter. It will be enough for us if we win freedom for our sisters who will follow after, reaping where we have sown!

E. M. TAIT ("JOHN IRONSIDE.")

ONE of the latest homeopathic preparations for enriching the blood and improving the system is "Vitalia." As a remedy for anæmia and all forms of malnutrition and nervous debility it has been found most valuable. The editor of *The Homeopathic World* speaks very highly of it, and it is now widely advocated by doctors. It is put up in bottles of various sizes and sold at 1s., 1s. 6d., 2s. 9d. and 5s. This useful tonic is obtainable from Vitalia, Ltd., 5, Albion-place, Blackfriars, London, S.E.

## THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

Secretary—Miss L. M. THOMPSON.

Directors—Mrs. C. DESPARD, Mrs. E. HOW MARTYN, B.Sc., Mrs. J. E. SNOW, Mrs. L. THOMPSON-PRICE.

SATURDAY, June 10, 1911.

### SURSUM CORDA.

We Suffragists this week have gone through a whole gamut of emotions. On Monday afternoon we met youthful optimists giddy with joy over Mr. Lloyd George's declaration in the House, though others more experienced saw ominous loopholes in the Chancellor's answers to the questions of Mr. Keir Hardie and others. On Tuesday the verbatim reports confirmed our worst fears, the astute lawyer-like form of Mr. Lloyd George's statements, his refusal to grant a pledge for closure filled expert minds with dismay; on Tuesday, I think, through all societies, both militant and constitutional, women raged "like semi-despondent furies," one heard much talk of "insult," treachery, dirty tricks, dishonourable dodges, political knavery, and other language of a strong order.

The terrible voice of a most just judgment, for the injustice, frivolity and dishonour of politicians has borne a harvest of distrust and indignation in the hearts of those whom they have mocked at and betrayed. With bitterness and contempt we read "My Crew," picked up by Mr. Nevinson in the House of Commons, written, as he thinks, by a Cabinet Minister:—

I do believe in freedom's call  
In countries where the nigger is;  
I'm sure that every Liberal  
Should boast no blessing bigger is.  
I hate the coward slave, whose breast  
The flame of freedom's dim in;  
But liberty's an empty jest  
When parties talk of women.

I do believe the people's will  
Should regulate the nation;  
That law and tax should follow still  
Upon representation.  
But among "people" since I'd grieve  
The woman half to docket,  
I fish my pay without her leave  
From every woman's pocket.

I do believe the House of Peers  
Is like old Satan lurking,  
It wakes my democratic fears  
To see their Veto working.  
If lords lay Bills upon the shelf,  
I raise a mighty clatter;  
But when I burke a Bill myself—  
That's quite a different matter.

Women have little to be thankful for, but at least most of us will say a *Laus Deo* that we are not members of a Liberal Cabinet, of whom such verses can truthfully be written.

On Wednesday things brightened again, the Conciliation Committee met, and the rumour went round that these just and righteous men were standing firm; and on Thursday we read with joy that the following resolution had been passed unanimously:—

This Committee regrets the decision of the Government to refuse further facilities for its Bill this year, and notes that other measures, which received their second reading later than the Women's Enfranchisement Bill, have been added, or are expected to be added, to the programme of the Session.

The Committee still hopes that the course of business may enable time to be found for the further consideration of its Bill before the end of the Session. In the event of this not being possible, it asks that the facilities to be provided in the Second Session shall be effective. That assurance was not clearly conveyed in the Chancellor of the Exchequer's statement, which was open to the interpretation that these facilities were offered only as an instalment. It is of opinion that under the usual arrangements for the closure of debate, the consideration of the Bill could be completed six or seven days after its second reading. It asks that it shall have the moral support of the Government for a reasonable "closure" resolution, and the assistance of a Minister in moving in case of need the suspension of the 11 o'clock rule. And, further, that if the Committee stage is successfully com-

pleted, the short time necessary for the remaining stages of the Bill should be granted at a period of Session which would permit of its due consideration by the House of Lords.

Again our spirits rose, and then this morning we open our newspaper and see the honest and straightforward statement of Sir Edward Grey, making it perfectly clear that this offer of the Government is no sham but genuine:—

If the House of Commons in a week showed itself to have a combined, determined majority, substantial and united, anxious to proceed with the Bill, to suppose that the Government would then use all its whips and machinery to say that, even though one or two days only more were required, it would use all its influence to prevent those two days being used, that is not a reasonable interpretation of the offer.

Throughout Britain we should hold a day of thanksgiving for these gracious words, and we feel that we can trust Sir Edward to make them good. To quote *The Manchester Guardian*:—

The one thing which has most bred bitterness in this strife has been the feeling of women that they were being put off and eluded, that their claim was not so much resisted as for ever postponed and evaded. Sir Edward Grey's words will, for the first time, give them assurance and confidence.

We can end up for once on the chord of C major.

MARGARET WYNNE NEVINSON.

### WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN AUSTRALIA.

There was an interesting article in a recent number of *The Delinicator*, by W. Farmer Whyte and Sarah Warder McConnell, telling how Woman Suffrage came about in Australia and New Zealand, and what good it has accomplished. After outlining the history of the movement, the article continues:—

"But the important thing is the way in which women have borne their responsibilities, the use they have made of the voice of citizenship. The Suffrage has justified itself. Parliamentary life is more dignified than it was; it has been purged of some of its former impurities. With the advent of women into politics have come many of the reforms for which they fought.

"As woman's point of view is different, so it alters the character of the reforms instituted. Woman's natural impulse is toward the ounce of prevention rather than toward the pound of cure, and naturally less to reformatory work than to the legislation of prevention. She wants to begin things right; for instance, with the children, she wants to stop wrongs before they are begun. Much humanitarian legislation has been passed, and in the Public Health Act, and such other measures as the Pure Food and Drugs Act, the beneficial effect of a woman's guiding hand is seen. As inspectors in factories and in a hundred different ways, women are showing that they can do good practical work for the betterment of their country."

The article says that woman suffrage has worked against liquor and gambling, and that whereas in the old times it was hard to get men of ability and integrity to stand for office, they are now willing to serve and are elected.

### MISS JULIE HUNTSMAN'S RECITAL.

Miss Julie Huntsman, A.G.S.M., the well-known elocutionist and member of the Women's Freedom League, gave an interesting recital of prose and verse at the Steinway Hall on Wednesday evening, May 31.

The special feature of Miss Huntsman's work is that she uses no gesture whatever, but depends for her effects on voice and facial expression alone. In a programme, the variety of which may be gauged from the fact that it included pieces by A. Sarga, Dean Swift, Alfred Noyes, Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler, V. Y. Remnitz, S. T. Coleridge and Rudyard Kipling, this distinguished artiste had admirable opportunity of demonstrating the quality of her talent. In tragedy and comedy alike Miss Huntsman proved herself a complete and inspiring mistress of her art.

### PROCESSION DAY, JUNE 17.

#### Achieving the Impossible.

But for the fact that suffragists have educated London to expect the impossible, I fear that our predictions with regard to our procession would be received *cum grano salis*! But never a carping doubt is heard. A rare tribute that to the strength of our movement, and the organising capacity of the women who lead it.

#### Predictions.

It would, however, be difficult to overstate—though we pressed our stock of adjectives to the verge of bankruptcy—the beauty, importance, and interest, both from a spectacular and educational point of view, of the coming demonstration. Picture to yourselves the decorative aspect alone: five miles of women, clad for the most part in white, with flowers and garlands in their hands. Five miles of glowing colour; fluttering banners and ribbons in the green, white and gold of the W.F.L., the purple, white and green of the W.S.P.U., the red, white and green of the National Union, the pink and green of the Actresses' League; the gold and white of the Church League, and all the other colour harmonies of the various suffrage societies, that have become almost as numerous as the leaves in Vallombrosa in these latter days.

#### United We March.

But this great winding stream of womanhood will mean much more, so very much more, than a mere pageant of beauty and colour: for it will be composed of units that have foregathered from all parts of the earth to show devotion to a common cause. All barriers will be swept away on that day. Distinction of class, creed, party, race, will be forgotten. The greatest as well as the humblest will be represented there.

Women graduates, clad in the insignia of intellectuality, the caps and gowns of the various universities, will march past in imposing phalanxes. Women of high social standing, women famed for their contributions to the realms of art, science and literature; women whose shoulders are bowed by their contributions to the realms of drudgery and poverty; women whose faces are whitened by excessive toil, will all find their places in that great array. Women from countries where the battle of political freedom is already won—Australia, New Zealand, Norway, and others; women from countries where the first faint notes of rebellion and struggle are just beginning to sound, will stand side by side on that day. They will not only meet but will clasp hands of fellowship in the greatest procession of women that the world has ever seen.

#### Women of the Past.

The historical pageant, too, will give the scoffer at women's claim to freedom—if such a one exist!—furiously to think. Group after group will sweep by showing the position occupied by women in the Middle Ages, the public work done by them, the honour given to them. There will be women governors, high sheriffs, justices of the peace; the saintly women who held high office in the Church; the learned women of the past; the free women of City companies; and the women wonder workers of a later date, whose names run trippingly off the tongue when brave deeds are mentioned—Florence Nightingale, Grace Darling, Elizabeth Fry and others.

#### A Modern Contrast.

And, to fix the lesson of women's need for representation more forcibly in the minds of the scoffers, there will march—under banners blazoning forth their bitter state—the industrial slaves of Britain, the sweated women workers of to-day.

#### Our Banners.

There is not the faintest doubt that the banners designed for the W.F.L. by the Suffrage Atelier will exact many a tribute of admiration as they

are carried past. Their beauty of gold, with the painted heralds and mottoes—our "Dare to be Free" and the many other clarion calls of our campaign—must single them out for special admiration.

Perhaps the one that will attract the most attention, though, will be that giving the amount of public money spent for the special protection of Cabinet Ministers and public buildings since the beginning of the militant campaign. Its peculiarly interesting inscription will be read, we can well imagine, with mingled feelings by the rate and tax-payers along the route.

The banner that will be carried in front of the **Municipal Section** will also be a very striking one. It will be decorated with a painted figure of a Lord Mayor, and a statement of the number of municipalities that have petitioned Parliament in favour of our Bill.

#### The Branch Banners

That have been designed are of uniform size and shape, and it will add greatly to the beauty of the Freedom League Section if all the branches will carry these special banners. They should be ordered *at once*, if branches do not wish to have it on their consciences that they have kept members of the Atelier from their beds for several nights previous to the procession.

#### Points to be Remembered.

The procession secretary hopes that all who can will wear white dresses; or if that be not convenient those of a green or golden brown shade. This question of dress, though, must not be regarded as of sufficient importance to keep anyone from joining our ranks if they do not possess dresses of the colours mentioned. It is much more important that they should *come* than that they should wear dresses of a certain shade.

It was found last year that many women preferred not to wear hats, and certainly the custom has much to recommend it, for hats take up a lot of space in these days. For those, however, who feel "unfinished" without a hat, a lace or silk scarf, or a bow of ribbon in green, white or gold, can be recommended as a substitute that will give satisfaction both to themselves and their neighbours. Names of banner bearers are needed by Miss Clayton, the banner secretary. There should be no difficulty in getting these, even if the task meant scarred hands and aching backs; but it will not! The banners and poles are extremely light, and will not be a tax on anyone's strength.

Members should begin to form up on the Embankment at 4.30 p.m. Every member who has done her duty, and filled in her card and forwarded it to the office as requested, will receive instructions as to where to find her section and the marshal in charge of it.

Proxies are still needed for the **Prisoners' Section**, the **Municipal Section**, the **Pickers' Section**, &c.

Even Suffragettes—ubiquitous as they are—cannot be in two places at once, and as so many of our members have served in the various protests, as prisoners, or tax resisters, they must call upon fellow-members to represent them in one or the other capacity. It should be regarded as an honour to do so by those who have been debarred from active service. As London receives the greater part of the prestige and triumph of these wonderful marches, it is only fitting that she should pay the tax of necessary hospitality cheerfully. This question this year is particularly urgent. There will be more women than ever before coming up from the provinces, and apartments will be most difficult to get. Will London members, therefore, kindly send in their names with full particulars of the hospitality they can provide, to Mr Fisher, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, as quickly possible?

#### Kensington Town Hall.

The meeting that will be held by the League at the above hall will prove a fitting finish to a memorable day. Mrs. How Martyn will be in the chair, and in addition to speeches from our own well-known and much-loved members—Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nevinson,

Miss Jack and Mrs. Francis—we are to have the pleasure of hearing Miss Esther Roper, B.A., Miss Eva Gore Booth, and Mrs. Dickenson. Tickets should be applied for *at once*, as the number available is rapidly lessening.

It is hoped, too, that Branches will send their Branch Banners that are not being carried in the Procession to help to decorate the Kensington Town Hall.

For further information regarding any special section members should apply to the hon. organisers, as below:

**Graduates' Section.**—Hon. organiser, Mrs. Vulliamy, Maitland House, Newnham, Cambridge.

**Teachers' Section.**—Hon. organiser, Miss A. Mitchell, Merok, Great North-road, Highgate.

**Nurses' Section.**—Hon. organiser, Miss B. Kent, 10, Coliseum-terrace, Regent's Park.

**Prisoners' Section.**—Hon. organiser, Miss Dickeson, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi.

**Factory Workers and Sweated Workers Section.**—Hon. organiser, Miss D. Lansbury, 103, St. Stephen's-road, Bow, E.

**Carriage Section.**—Hon. organiser, Mrs. Harvey, 1 Brackenhill, Bromley, Kent.

**Hon. Procession Secretary**, to whom all general communications should be addressed, Miss Le Mesurier, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, Strand.

### BRANCH NOTES.

**NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON.**—1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

**Mid-London.**—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Ealing.

Will members make a point of attending branch meeting at the Gardenia Restaurant (Catherine-street, Strand) on Friday, 9th, *punctually* at 7.30? Someone will be sent from headquarters to explain the arrangements made for our section in the Procession. Procession cards must be returned to 1, Robert-street, as soon as possible.

**Clapham.**—Hon. Secretary: Miss UNDERWOOD, 31, Rush Hill-road, Lavender Hill, S.W.

At a members' meeting held at this address last Wednesday, it was decided to purchase a banner to be carried in the Procession of June 17, and to arrange a public meeting in the district as early as possible. Members who have not yet paid their subscriptions, and those who would like to give donations towards the cost of the banner, are invited to communicate as early as possible with the Hon. Treasurer, Miss O'Hallaran, 80, Larchall-rise, Clapham Common, S.W.

**Anerley and Crystal Palace District.**—Hon. Secretary: Miss J. FENNINGS, 149, Croydon-road.

The meeting last Monday was most successful. We had several questions, a good collection, and sold thirty-three copies of THE VOTE. On June 12 Miss Neilans is coming to the Tram Terminus. We shall be glad to hear from all women and men who will walk in the Procession on June 17.

**Herne Hill and Norwood.**—Hon. Secretary: Miss B. SPENCER, 32, Geneva-road, Brixton, S.W.

Our Suffrage Sale and Garden Party will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, June 28 and 29. Mrs. Despard has kindly promised to open the sale on Wednesday afternoon. Several members and friends have promised to play, sing, and recite. On Tuesday, June 13, at 3 p.m., a drawing-room meeting will be held at 161, Croxted-road, Dulwich, by kind invitation of Miss Davies. Miss Alison Neilans will speak.

**Stamford Hill.**—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. CUNNINGHAM, 114, Holmleigh-road.

The "At Home" given to members of the branch on May 30 was unusually interesting. Mr. Ernest Goodwin, M.A., and Mr. G. P. Bousfield were the speakers. Members and friends are kindly reminded that their help is needed to complete the two banners being made for the grand procession on June 17, and that we are anxious to enrol as many sympathisers in the Stamford Hill contingent as possible.

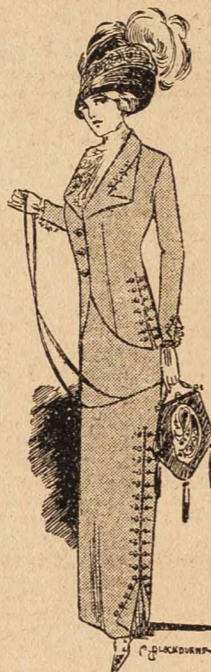
**Tottenham.**—3, Elmhurst-road, Bruce-grove, N.

Our open-air meetings were started on Thursday last, Miss Dyer, of Northern Heights, most ably holding the audience for an hour and a half. We hope to continue these meetings every Thursday at 7.30 p.m. outside the Gas Offices, High-road, Lower Tottenham. Will members please support Miss Sidley next Thursday, June 8, and Miss Neilans on the 15th. No member must be absent on June 12 at garden meeting at 91, Mount Pleasant-road, when final instructions for Procession will be given. Please note time—6-8 p.m. Miss Tite has promised to come to us; so please come and bring friends.

**Hackney.**—Hon. Secretary: Miss P. LE CROISSETTE, 238, Navarino-Mansions, Dalston, N.E.

Mrs. Tanner spoke on "The Mother and the Vote" at the branch meeting on May 31, and also favoured us on Sunday

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OUTFITS**

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Prices.**

in Victoria-park. Miss Fennings conducted the Thursday meeting in the park. Important.—Please send all jumble goods at once to Mrs. Catmur, 23, Terrace-road, South Hackney. It is hoped to have extra Procession meetings in the neighbourhood this week, as well as several poster parades. Any offers of assistance in any shape or form will be greatly appreciated.

**Highbury.**—Hon. Secretary: B. M. JOHN, 65, Marquess-road, Islington, N.

Through the kindness of Miss Bissett Smith, a drawing-room meeting was held at 57, Hillmartin-road on May 30, when Miss Fennings and Mrs. Rouse kindly came and spoke to an interested audience. The usual open-air meeting was held at High-bury Corner on Thursday evening, when Miss Andrews gave us some interesting prison experiences. We hope to hold some extra open-air meetings before the procession, and trust to have the help of more branch members.

**Eastbourne.**—Hon. Secretary: E. M. FRANCIS, 51, Buckingham-place, Brighton.

Mrs. Allen, our hon. treasurer, is very kindly allowing us to hold a meeting at her house, 18, Upperton-gardens, on June 12, at 3 p.m. Will all members and friends please make an effort to attend? The subjects to be discussed are the great procession and the present political situation. Committee meeting to follow at 5.30 p.m.

**Brighton and Hove.**—Hon. Secretaries: Mrs. FRANCIS, 51, Buckingham-place, Brighton; Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove.

The series of garden meetings arranged with the special intention of discovering talent for speaking have proved increasingly successful, but it is hoped that even more members and women friends will avail themselves of the opportunity afforded at the last of the series, which will be held, by kind invitation of Miss Hare, at 8, San Remo, Hove, on Wednesday, June 14, at 6.30 p.m. Short open-air meetings in preparation for the procession have been held on a new pitch. With train facilities it is hoped a large contingent from Brighton and Hove will be got together for June 17.

**Portsmouth and Gosport.**—Hon. Secretary: Mrs. WHETTON, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea.

The next members' meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 13, at 7 p.m. at 6, Clarence View. Business: Procession arrangements. The thanks of the branch are due to Mrs. Bremner, who for the last twelve months has paid for five copies of THE VOTE to be sent weekly to the Free Libraries, where, according to various reports, they are very much appreciated, and well read. Gratefully acknowledged: to propaganda fund—Mrs. Crawley, 2s. 6d.; Mrs. Whetton, 2s. 6d.

**LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.**—Hon. Organiser: MISS MANNING, B.A., Harper-hill, Sale, Cheshire.

### Manchester.

**PROCESSION ARRANGEMENTS.**—Members travelling by the special train on June 17 should send in their names to Miss Manning by Saturday, June 10. Members are asked to be at Victoria Station by 9.45 a.m. There will be no restaurant car on the special train, and members must make their own arrangements for lunch. The refreshment-room at Victoria Station will be open on Sunday morning at 5.30. The motor omnibus service will run on Sunday morning to Altrincham, Sale, Urnston, Eccles, Whitefield, Prestwich, Kersall, Crumpsall, Levenshulme, and up Palatine-road. For other arrangements see last week's issue.

**Sale.**—Miss GEILER, "Thornlea," Wardle-road, Sale; "VOTE" Agents: Mrs. HOBSON, 13, Northenden-road; Mrs. WALKER, 125, Washway-road.

A delightful garden party was held by the kindness of Mrs. Sandys at Raglan House, Brooklands, on Wednesday, May 31. The speaker for the afternoon was Mrs. Despard, who dwelt on the possibilities which lay in the Tax-Resistance policy, and the need for united effort if the Bill were to be saved. Mrs. Manning opened the meeting, and later Councillor Ernest Jones, in proposing a vote of thanks to the speakers and our hostess, spoke eloquently in support of the Bill.

During the afternoon Mrs. Nidd gave a masterly rendering of "Woman This and Woman That"; and *Woman's Influence* was performed under the management of Miss Hines. Both these entertainments were much appreciated by the large audience, as was also the band provided by the kindness of Miss Geiler.

**Waterloo.**—Hon. Secretary: 49, Kimberley-drive, Great Crosby.

An enthusiastic meeting was held on Friday, 26th. A garden party was arranged for the last week in June; it was also agreed that weekly working parties should be held every Thursday until the sale of work in October.

**NORTH-EASTERN.**—Hon. Organiser: Mrs. SCHOFIELD COATES, Wilstrop House, Roman-road, Middlesbrough.

**Sunderland.**—Hon. Secretary: M. CLARK.

A most successful "Cake and Apron Sale" was held on May 24, the proceeds of which went to pay cost of branch banner, in addition to a balance for branch funds. New members were made, and we feel our hearty thanks are due



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to all those who through personal effort helped us to achieve such satisfactory success.

**WALES AND MONMOUTH.**—Hon. Organiser: MRS. CLEEVES, "Chez Nous," Sketty, Glamorgan.

**Swansea.**—Hon. Organising Secretary: Miss H. DAVIES, B.A., Training College. Hon. Corresponding Secretary: Miss PHIPPS, B.A., 5, Grosvenor-road, Sketty.

At the branch meeting on May 31, Miss D. Salmon gave a very interesting address on "The Minority Report of the Poor Law Commission." The next branch meeting will be on June 14, at Dynevor-place School, at 8 p.m., when there will probably be a debate.

### SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow: Suffrage Centre, 302, SAUCHIEHALL-STREET.

Hon. Secretary: MISS MINA STEVEN.

Hon. Treasurer: MISS JANET L. BUNTEN.

Shop Manager: MISS McARTHUR.

Telegrams: "Tactics," Glasgow. Nat. Telephone: 435 Douglas.

#### Glasgow Branch Income, May, 1911.

Amount previously acknowledged		£	s.	d.	Miss Baird		£	s.	d.
132 5 3½					..	..	0	4	0
Donations and subscriptions:					Miss Schmidt	..	0	2	6
Mrs. Snell Anderson	..	0	2	0	Miss Service	..	0	10	0
Mrs. Brown	..	0	5	0	Mrs. Macaulay	..	1	0	0
Mrs. McCall	..	0	10	0	Miss J. K. Stirrat	..	0	2	6
Miss Curwell	..	0	10	6	Miss F. H. May	..	0	2	0
Miss Harriot	..	0	5	0	Miss Pirret	..	0	4	0
Miss Anderson	..	0	10	6	Miss K. McArthur	..	0	4	0
Mrs. McLeod	..	1	0	0	Miss E. Huntley	..	1	0	0
Mrs. Wilson	..	7	11	6	Collecting-boxes—				
Miss Pirret	..	0	10	6	Mrs. Scrimgeour	..	0	3	0
Miss Baird	..	1	0	0	No. 23	..	0	1	5
Miss E. S. Semple	..	1	4	0	Collected on Census				
Miss J. Semple	..	0	2	6	Night—				
Miss Stirling	..	0	10	6	Miss C. Reid	..	0	4	0
Miss Gibson	..	0	10	0	Miss E. S. Semple	..	6	7	0
Miss Bunten	..	10	0	0	Proceeds of Mrs.				
Mrs. Berry	..	0	1	0	Despard's Lecture	..	7	17	0
Miss E. May	..	0	3	0	Profit on Jumble				
Miss White	..	5	0	0	Sale, Dennistoun	..	12	13	9
Miss I. White	..	2	0	0	Whist Drive Ticket	..	0	2	6
Miss K. McArthur	..	0	10	0	For Partick Cake and				
Mrs. Collins	..	1	1	0	Gandy Sale (per				
Miss J. C. Hamilton	..	0	5	0	Mrs. Wilson)	..	1	10	0
Mrs. White	..	0	5	0	Collections	..	0	8	5½
Miss Sanderson	..	0	1	0	Telephone Box	..	0	0	8
Miss Crystal	..	0	2	0	Sales in Shop and				
Census Fund—					Tea-room	..	7	0	4
Miss Wilson	..	0	4	0	Membership Fees	..	2	19	6
					Total	£209	5	10½	

At the monthly meeting of the Glasgow Council it was agreed that during the summer months the Suffrage centre should be closed on Thursday at six and on Saturday at two. Conveners of districts who have membership fees, and those who have collecting boxes, might hand in all money some time this month.

**Dundee.**—Hon. Secretary: L. CLUNAS.

It is felt that our membership could be greatly increased if we had an office of our own, and we are to make great efforts in the autumn to realise our ambition. The branch has approached the Town Council asking that it may be represented in the Dundee Coronation Procession. No reply has as yet been received, but members willing to walk under our new banner are requested to communicate with the secretary. Several members are to be in London for June 17. During the summer members are asked to get THE VOTE regularly from The Hub, High-street.

**Edinburgh.**—Hon. Secretary: Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place; Hon. Treasurer, Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street; Hon. Shop Secretary: Mrs. THOMSON, 39, Rosslyn-court.

We find that there is a possibility of going to the Procession at an expense of 26s. Full information may be had at the shop. An attractive programme is being arranged for the garden party on June 24. Tickets (1s. each) are now ready. These include admissions, tea, Suffrage speech, and entertainment. Mrs. Thomson is acting as ticket secretary. The second of the summer "At homes" will be held on Wednesday, June 14, at 7.30 p.m.

#### THE SCOTTISH COUNCIL.

Under the auspices of the Scottish Council Miss Anna Munro, assisted by the members of the local branches, has been conducting a campaign in the villages near Dundee, Perth, and Dunfermline. At all the meetings Miss Jennie McCallum, hon. secretary of the Dunfermline Branch, presided, and Miss Anna Munro was the speaker. Misses Margaret and Eva Thomson, and Mr. W. Campbell also gave much assistance by collecting and selling literature. Helpers are still required for the July holiday campaign on the west coast of Scotland. Will any members who can give any time from a day to a month communicate with Miss Anna Munro, The Manse, Kingseat Hill, Dunfermline, stating duration of stay and dates? Miss Munro will also be very pleased to supply any further particulars.

### OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

**The Church League for Women's Suffrage.**—Hon. Secretary: REV. C. HINSLIFF. Offices: 11, St. Mark's-crescent, Regent's-park, London, N.W.

A service will be held at the Chapel Royal, Savoy, at 3.30 on Saturday, June 17, at which members and friends are asked to be present. The C.L.W.S. contingent (Section C 4) will meet on the Embankment near Blackfriars Bridge, and march to Kensington Town Hall (small), where a meeting will be held at 8.30. Chairman, The Rev. Maurice F. Bell; speakers, Miss Maude Royden, Dr. Lætitia Fairfield, and the Rev. Claude Hinscliff. Clergy and graduates desiring to robe before the procession will find a cloak-room at their disposal at the International Suffrage Shop, 15, Adam-street, Strand.

**The Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.**—Hon. Secretary: MISS KENDALL, 22, Wilberforce-road, Finsbury Park, N. Hon. Treasurer: MISS MONICA WHATELY, 75, Harcourt-terrace, The Boltons, London, S.W.

All Catholic men and women are asked to join this Society at once, and walk under our banner in the great Procession of June 17. Members are asked to note that we form up at 4.30 p.m. near Blackfriars Bridge, behind the Church League. Catholics who are walking in others parts of the Procession should make a point of sending a substitute. Ladies are asked to wear white or light colours. The inaugural meeting of the Society is to be held at the Kensington Town Hall on Saturday next, 10th, at 3.15 p.m., Miss Fitzgerald, B.A., in the chair.

**Free Church League for Women's Suffrage.**—President: DR. CLIFFORD. Hon. Corresponding Secretary: MISS HATTY BAKER, 25, Hartington-villas, Hove.

The League held its first annual business meeting followed by a public meeting on May 31. Speakers: Mrs. Strickland, Dr. Orchard, Dr. Tudor Jones, and Mrs. Saul Solomon. Reports presented by both secretaries, showing growth of League, about eight or nine branches being already in existence. Free Church sympathisers were urged to walk in Procession, and apply to Mrs. Rogers, 4, Cholmeley-park, Highgate, N., for information re F.C.L. contingent. Branch meetings at Penge, 8th and 14th inst. The League is this month sending lady speakers to Men's Brotherhoods at Clapton and Lavender Hill.

### "TRUE WOMANHOOD."

#### A New Cinematograph Play.

A very interesting play, written by Miss Bensusan, and with Miss Decima Moore, Miss Auriol Lee, and Mr. Ben Webster as the principal actors, will be seen at the Cinematograph Theatres in a few days. It sets forth the trials of a sweated woman worker (Miss Bensusan) for whom, thanks to her drunken husband (Mr. Ashton) there is nothing left but the workhouse. At the psychological moment, however, she is saved by a fair godmother to the unhappy woman, and brings about a reconciliation between the man and wife, and helps them to make a fresh start in life. The interest never flags for one moment. Two scenes that will especially appeal to every Suffragette represent a poster parade advertising the great Procession of June 17 (the leader being Miss Auriol Lee), and a mass meeting at Election time addressed by a leading politician (Mr. Ben Webster), who is interrupted by Suffragettes (Miss Decima Moore and others), subsequently ejected amidst a tremendous uproar—a most realistic scene. Mr. Barker (of Barker's Motion Photography) has most kindly undertaken to produce the film, and has devoted unflinching attention to the play. Every member of the Woman's Freedom League can help to make the play a success in the following ways:—

Visit the Cinematograph Theatre in your district, and ask if this play is to be seen there. If it is, get together a group of friends and sympathisers, and go in a body to see it. If not, ask the manager if he has heard anything about it, and give him the title of the play, "True Womanhood," and the address where he can buy the film, Barker's Motion Photography, Limited, 1, Soho-square, W.C. Also promise him that you will undertake to bring a large number of people.

READ, Madam! Having read you shall not dare  
Those furs and feathers e'er again to wear.  
Read here of outrages too deep for words,  
Of plumage plucked from living, nesting birds;  
The lamb of Astrakhan untimely born  
At ten times Nature's price in pain, and shorn  
Nay, flayed alive (To suffer so! So young!);  
The baited iron froze to the ermine's tongue;  
That softest skin stripped from the sobbing seal;  
The unnatural horror of dead teeth of steel  
That seem to bite in dying, and in death  
Still rend their living prey, till Nature saith,  
Exhausted outraged Nature, "This must cease."  
And Death itself brings merciful release,  
Long ere the hunter come to quench his Hell  
Of traps and poisons which, the citadel  
Of being entered, inmost vitals gnaw—  
And here cry FINIS! Man can do no more.

MISERICORDIA.

### MR. FORBES ROBERTSON ON THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT IN AMERICA.

At a meeting held on Friday last at the Criterion Restaurant, under the auspices of the Actresses' Franchise League, Mr. Forbes Robertson, who has recently had a most successful tour in America, gave an eloquent exposition of his views of the movement in that country.

Speaking of the growth of the movement in America, Mr. Forbes Robertson said: "Within a period of about four years there has spread over the whole continent an extraordinary enthusiasm and interest in our cause. Formerly it was only among the higher intelligences of women that our cause was known; now it has spread to every class. I have visited twenty-five cities, and I find in everyone of these cities a keen interest and a desire for knowledge, a desire to hear something more about it. I find also in everyone of these towns a live institution, working hard and conscientiously for our great cause. It is perfectly wonderful; and so rapidly is our cause spreading over there that I almost fear they may get what they want before we do.

"As regards the men in America, I was very much interested in their attitude towards the woman Suffrage question. To those who think that I am not in a position to speak fairly, I want to point out that an actor is so situated that he is enabled to get into touch with all classes and sections of society; therefore I am justified in considering that my points have some weight. I spoke with many men in many cities in many grades of society, and it is no exaggeration to say that every American said to me, 'When the woman wants the vote she shall have it.' That is a very different position from that which obtains in this country. My sorrow is that the men who are against us become mad with rage; they cannot keep calm; they become black in the face and inarticulate with rage. The other day I was talking to a man who was speaking favourably of the torture of forcible feeding that has been administered to certain women in this country. I argued with that man. I answered as best I could every objection that was made—it is not usually difficult. He weakened at every point, until he subsided altogether, and all he had left to say, was, 'Well, the long and the short of it is, Robertson, I don't want them to have it.'

"With regard to the men who are afraid their homes will suffer, I would say that they must learn that there must be give and take on both sides. The time the women give to studying politics, let the men give to the home. It will be a better place.

"All of us have heard these antispeaking, and trying to depreciate the influence for good that the woman's vote has given to Australia, New Zealand and those States in America where women fortunately have the vote. Mr. Deakin, Premier of Australia, told Mrs. Henry Fawcett that he looked upon the women's vote in Australia as the salvation of the country; that it not only made the women realise their responsibility towards their country, but it also awakened a much greater interest in the men.

"I had the pleasure of hearing the Governor of Colorado speaking at a meeting. You have heard from the anti that the woman's vote was a disadvantage in many ways. The Governor gave the Anti-Suffragists the direct lie on every point; he said how, over and over again, the woman's vote had saved the situation in Colorado.

"I have always been the keenest man for this great cause. I have been accused and told that because I am an actor I should not meddle with political affairs. But I have yet to see that because a man is interested in some great art, he should fail to interest himself in political affairs. We who are working now in this movement may not see all the enormous advantages that are going to arise out of it. It is for our children and our grandchildren that we are fighting, and we must remember that it is not only for the present generation, but for all future generations."

MARGUERITE A. SIDLEY.

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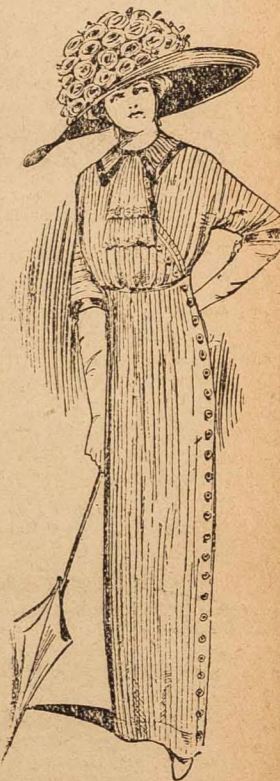
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**FORTHCOMING EVENTS.**  
**LONDON.**



**DARE TO BE FREE.**

**Thurs., June 8.**—"At Home," Caxton Hall, 3.30 p.m. Miss Sidley, Miss Neilans.  
**Fri., June 9.**—7.30 p.m., at the "Gardenia," Mid-London Branch members' meeting.  
**Sat., June 10.**—7.30 p.m., South Norwood Clock. Miss Ethel Fenning.  
**Sun., June 11.**—Hyde Park, 12 noon. Mrs. Mustard, Mr. Reginald Pott. *Chair:* Miss O'Brien.  
 Victoria Park, 3 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson.  
**Mon., June 12.**—8 p.m., Tram Terminus, Crystal Palace. Miss Neilans.  
**Tues., June 13.**—Drawing-room meeting, 161, Croxted-road, Dulwich, 3 p.m. *Speaker:* Miss Alison Neilans.  
**Wed., June 14.**—4, Clarence-road, Hackney. 8 p.m.  
**Thurs., June 15.**—"At Home," Caxton Hall, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Sproson, Miss Nevinson.  
**Sun., June 18.**—Victoria Park, 3 p.m. Mr. Wilks.  
**Sun., June 18.**—Hyde Park, 12 noon.  
**Wed., June 28.**—Suffrage Sale. *Speaker:* Mrs. Despard.  
**Thurs., June 29.**—Garden Party, 170, Peckham Rye, S.E., 3 to 9 p.m.

**SCOTLAND.**

**Sat., June 10.**—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. Meeting of Scottish Council, 3 p.m.  
**Wed., June 14.**—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. Monthly "At Home," 7.30 p.m.  
**Sat., June 24.**—Mrs. Gillespie's, 11, Salisbury-road. Garden party, 3 p.m. Tickets, 1s. each.  
**Thurs.**—Inverkeithny, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.  
**Fri.**—Lochgelly, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.  
**Sat.**—Edinburgh, Castle-terrace, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.  
**Mon.**—Cowdenheath, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.  
**Tues.**—Inverkeithny, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.

**WALES.**

The Freedom League, the W.S.P.U. and the Cardiff and District Suffrage Society are joining forces in South Wales to have a special train for our great procession on June 17. I hope all Suffragists and their friends in this district will support us in this venture, as we have had to guarantee 200 before the G.W.R. would run this special. The fares are very cheap, so Wales ought to be well represented in the procession. Times of starting are as follows:—

Swansea .. .. .	6.15 a.m.	8s. return.
Neath .. .. .	6.30 "	8s. "
Bridgend .. .. .	7.30 "	8s. "
Cardiff .. .. .	8.0 "	7s. "
Newport .. .. .	8.20 "	7s. "
Sewern Tunnel Junction	8.45 "	7s. "
(for Caldicot)		

MARY McLEOD CLEEVES.

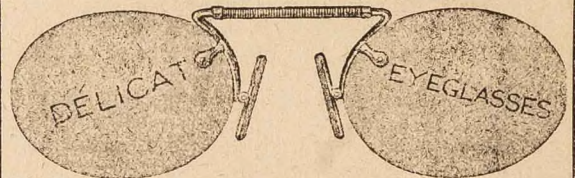
**CAN MAN BE FREE IF WOMAN BE A SLAVE?**

MAN seeks for gold in mines, that he may weave  
 A lasting chain for his own slavery;  
 In fear and restless care that he may live  
 He toils for others who must ever be  
 The joyless thralls of like captivity;  
 He murders, for his chiefs delight in ruin;  
 He builds the altar, that its idol's fee  
 May be his very blood; he is pursuing—  
 O, blind and willing wretch!—his own obscure undoing.  
 Woman!—she is his slave, she has become  
 A thing I weep to speak—the child of scorn,  
 The outcast of a desolated home;  
 Falsehood, and fear, and toil, like waves, have worn  
 Channels upon her cheek, which smiles adorn,  
 As calm decks the false Ocean: well ye know  
 What Woman is, for none of Woman born  
 Can choose but drain the bitter dregs of woe,  
 Which ever from the oppressed to the oppressors flow.  
 P. B. SHELLEY.

"VOTE" SELLERS are urgently needed between the hours of 12 noon and 7 p.m. All members are asked to try and spare one hour a week in order to keep THE VOTE well before the public and to advertise the Procession.

DR. SALEEBY, speaking at an ethical meeting recently, said that amongst the opponents of Woman Suffrage were all the men who, as he described it, were "bullies, drunkards, satyrs, mammonists, and all who are marked with the mark of the beast." They think that woman should be kept in her "proper place," which place they proceed to define. Sex antagonism, viewed from this point of view, is much more widely spread amongst men than amongst women. Every music-hall and every public-house, said the lecturer, would be found to be against Woman Suffrage.

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- June 11. Impending Physical Changes.
  - " 18. The Growth of a World-Religion.
  - " 25. The Coming of a World-Teacher.
  - July 2. Social Problems: Self-Sacrifice or Revolution?
  - " 9. Religious Problems: Dogmatism or Mysticism?
- AT 7 p.m. PROMPTLY.

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