THE VOTE

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

Vol. III. No. 54.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 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.

Published by W. Speaight & Sons, 98 & 99, Fetter-lane, E.C.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only. Articles, paragraphs, or cuttings dealing withmatters 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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WHAT WE THINK.

A Change of Tone.

The first sign of the change that appears to be taking place in the heart of the Premier was evidenced at Aberdeen, when, in a notable rectorial address on "Culture and Character," to the rowdy young men at Marischal College, we find him saying: "To be openminded, to struggle against preconceptions and hold them in due subjection, to keep the avenues of the intelligence free and unblocked, to take pains that the scales of the judgment shall be always even and fair, to appleame near truths when they have moved their title welcome new truths when they have proved their title, despite the havoc they may make of old and cherished beliefs, these may sound like commonplace qualities well within every man's reach, but experience shows that in practice they are the rarest. The temper which I am endeavouring to describe is not in any sense one of intellectual detachment or indifference. It implies, on the contrary, an active and visible mental life, equally directed against the fallecies of the market place and the cave animated. an active and visible mental life, equally directed against the fallacies of the market-place and the cave, animated by the will to believe and to act, but open always to the air of reason and the light of truth." Somebody has been opening windows in Mr. Asquith's mind during the same and the "air of reason and the light of truth" the recess, and the "air of reason and the light of truth must have been let in, for we find, instead of his usual abrupt refusal, that an explanatory reply was given to abrupt retusal, that an explanatory reply was given to Suffragettes at East Fife on Friday last, stating that facilities could not be given "because the present Session would only last a month"—not, as he has hitherto declared, because he was against the Bill; and he added a snub for the noisy members of the Cabinet, Messrs. Churchill and George, in stating that their vote could not bear the most serious interpretation. Mr. Birrell's statement that "the time for shuffling has gone by" was made the same day, and is another straw showing which way the wind blows. At the meeting of unemployed school-teachers on Saturday last Sir George Kekewich said if they wanted justice they must put the fear of death into the heart of the Government. Like Mr. Asquith we, too, have had our annus mirabilis, and many of our good results have come from advice given by our leaders which bears a family resemblance to that of Sir George Kekewich. Any counsel of delay is

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. a counsel of weakness. The first crack of the party whip will be an echo of the Suffrage whip. As no Cabinet Minister has given an adequate reason why any Bill should have preference to ours, we look to the new session with reasonable hopes.

At the Divorce Commission.

Some interesting evidence was given at the continuation of the adjourned Divorce Commission on Wedneslast, when all the witnesses were women. One and all demanded that the absolute equality of their sex with men should be fully and fairly recognised in any reform of the law of divorce. Some of the statements made by women representing widely different standpoints were of considerable importance. Lady Bamford Slack, giving evidence on behalf of the Women's Liberal Federation, was reminded by Lord Gorell that at present, if a wife brings an action for divorce, the husband has to lodge security, not only for his own costs but also for her costs, and her answer was that women were prepared to take the rough with the smooth, that they took their stand on equality. As this point has been raised by those anti-suffragists who at various times have described women as the "spoilt darlings of the law," and who, while cognisant of this unfarmed the husband, were conveniently blind to the gross cruelty involved in the different grounds upon which the sexes could claim divorce, we are very glad to hear it firmly answered. Women want no favours from the law—they only ask for justice.

Lord Curzon's Advice.

At the opening of the new buildings at Lady Margaret Hall, Oxford, Lord Curzon made some notable pronouncements which needed subtle casuistry to utilise for his own ends. He gave an excellent and interesting history of the higher education of women, and affirmed that this development was but one sign of the universal movement for the emancipation of women. He observed that he knew of no particular in which Oxford had lost by the advent of women students into its midst; on the contrary, he knew of many in which the University had gained by the presence of women who had accepted the discipline of the University, had absorbed the inner spirit, and shown the fullest intentions to profit by the educational opportunities of the place.

So far one might have almost imagined that an enlightened Suffragist was speaking, but "emancipation does not mean the same thing for everyone, and presently the portly pro-Consul showed the cloven hoof. He urged them to extend their fields of usefulness into journalism, to become librarians and secretaries, and landscape gardeners! Imagine the gratitude with which the male Oxford students who pass the same examinations as the ladies, the sole difference being that to the latter the privilege of writing B.A., Oxon, is denied, would receive suave advice as to their future careers as librarians, journalists, secretaries or landscape gardeners! If they were told that only the petty sidetracks of life were open to them, and that these privi-leges were a sign of the extension of their capacity! In such a case the exit of the paradoxical pro-Consul would have been hastened by adventitious means.

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PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT.

Suffrage Mission Week.

Next week is going to be one of the most important in the whole year. The Suffrage Societies will not only hold a series of meetings, but every earnest and sincer-Suffragist throughout the length and breadth of the country will strive to do "something for the Cause" every day. Thus we shall demonstrate that we have kept our resolves and that we maintain our imperative demands. While the politicians are jettisoning their creeds in fear of the constitutional issue, and rushing hither and thither in a wild and ridiculous confusion, we shall show that in the ranks of the women there is great constancy of purpose, and that one public issue at leas is unchanged and unchanging.

The following public meetings have been arranged in London by the Suffrage Societies co-operating in th Mission Week :-

Monday, November 7.—The Women's Freedom League, Caxton Hall, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Major General Sir Alfred Turner, K.C.B., Mrs. Cobden. Sanderson, Miss Muriel Matters, and Mr. Granville Barker. This is the opening meeting, and every member of the W. F. L. is urged to come and bring friends.

Tuesday, November 8.—Conservative and Unionis Women's Franchise Association, St. James' Theatre at 3 p.m. Artists' Suffrage League, 8.30 p.m., 11, Cheyn Gardens; Miss Lowndes and Miss Palliser.

Wednesday, November 9.-London Society for Women's Suffrage, "At Home," Chelsea Town Hall, at 3 p.m.

Thursday, November 10.—Younger Suffragists, Lantern Lecture, "History of the Women's Suffrage Movement," Miss Bertha Mason, at 3 p.m. Women's Freedom League, "At Home," Small Queen's Hall,

Friday, November 11.—Church League for Women's Suffrage, Caxton Hall, at 8 p.m. National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, at Memorial Hall. 8 p.m.

Saturday, November 12.—Men's League for Women's Suffrage, Demonstration at Trafalgar-square, 2.30 p.m. United Mass Meeting with speakers from all the particular Societies, at the Royal Albert Hall, at 7.30 p.m.

All the above except the last are free public meetings. For the Albert Hall boxes and seats can be obtained at 1, Robert-street, and early application is advised.

Caxton Hall "At Home."

London and District members are asked to remember our first regular Caxton Hall "At Home," on Thursday, the 3rd inst.

Shelley Lecture.

Tickets can still be had for next Sunday afternoon's parture has created. A special feature will be a musical programme, in which Miss Marta Cunningham and Miss Lonsdale are generously co-operating.

Members' Meetings.
Those for London are being held every Friday evening at 1, Robert-street, at 7.30. Every member, whether belonging to local Branches or unattached, is welcome at these reunions.

Friday, November 4, will be Mrs. Harvey's farewell and ls. cloth.

meeting, as announced last week, and should be par-B. BORRMANN WELLS. ticularly interesting.

OUR TREASURY.

		£	8.	d. 1		£	8.	d
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7	Golder, Miss J	0	ő	6	Spiller, Mrs	0	1	0
	Elford, Miss	0	0	6	Evison, Miss	0	5	0
9	Crawford, Miss	0	0	6	Bartram, Mrs	0	5	0
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,	Reynolds, Miss	0	3	11	Per Miss John:	Suit	200	
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e	C. Jackson	0	î	0	Waterloo Branch	0	4	3
	Armitage, Miss S	0	2	0	Sundries	0	4	8
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U	Hunt, Miss E	0	1	0	Ibbotson, Miss	0	2	3
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d	Saunders, Miss M. H.	0	2	6	Dundee I.L.P	0	6	0
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19			35%			10000	The ?	NOW

This week has been very cheering from a financial point of view, and we can start our winter campaign with the comforting assurance that our friends are as ready as ever to come to our help. We have received a most generous gift from Mrs. Wood, a sort of splendid parting present to console us a little for her departure from England. The special appeals for the Lloyd George postcard campaign, the Walthamstow byeelection, and the funds for THE VOTE have been instantly and most liberally responded to, and at the time of writing this (only three days after my particular appeal in this paper) I have already received several promises of £1 a year, one of which specially gratified me as I think many of our members might follow the example. Miss Jessie Clunas writes:-"I do not know if I could give £1 a year, but I thought if you would send me one of the collecting-boxes I would try my best, even although that best might be only 1d. or 2d. a week. We have one of the boxes at home for the branch, and you have no idea how the pennies and halfpennies mount up.

We have set up a stall in the office for the sale of small useful and ornamental articles, and would like lecture at the Small Queen's Hall, by Mrs. Despard on "Prometheus Unbound." A large attendance is confidently expected in view of the interest this new dedifferent kinds or anything suitable for Christmas presents. I only started the stall a little over three weeks ago, but the success has already been quite remarkable, and more has been made from our sales than I dared hope. I do beg members both to send me things and come and look at those I have.—Constance Tite.

> SHELLEY'S "Prometheus Unbound" can be had to order from the Literature Department, 3s. 6d. leather,

W.F.L. DAY AT THE SMALL QUEEN'S HALL.

Friday evening to celebrate the three events which are associated with October 28 in the W.F.L. calendar the Grille Protest, the Bermondsey Ballot Box Incident, and last but not least the first anniversary of the publication of THE VOTE. Mrs. Despard presided. The hall was decorated with the banners and devices of the League and everywhere the colours were well in evidence. A great number, of the delegates who were taking part in the Conference on the next day were present and had the opportunity of hearing Mrs. Billington-Greig's remarkable speech on the political situation. The evening was also noteworthy from the fact that one of our members, who has followed the progress of our paper with great interest, has taken up £50 shares in the Minerva Publishing Company, with the promise of a further £50 in December provided that shares to a similar amount have been taken up in the interval by others. A pleasant incident in the proceedings was the presentation to Miss Marie Lawson, managing director of the Minerva Publishing Company, of a handsome bureau as a tribute to the valuable work she has done

MRS. DESPARD'S SPEECH AT QUEEN'S HALL.

In her opening address Mrs. Despard said:-

In her opening address Mrs. Despard said:—
Friends, colleagues and fellow-citizens, for, although women are not citizens yet, I hope they will be in a very short time,—
I have very great pleasure to be here to meet so many of our friends in London again. I have been very much of a wanderer up and down the country, and wherever I have gone I have found that the women's cause is going strong in the provinces and that the Women's Freedom League is known and respected throughout the country. The women are now, and also the men who are aiding us in this great movement, at the moment gathering themselves together. It has been rather a trying men who are aiding us in this great movement, at the moment gathering themselves together. It has been rather a trying time, I know, to some, this period of quiescence. People have said that our agitation has been going down and that they would hear very little more about it. They have made a very great mistake. During this time of quiet our work has been going on steadily, increasing in spite of difficulties. Soldiers will tell you that when there is a truce and the troops are quiet all sorts of devices have to be used to prevent them from falling apart and to keep them strong and fit to attack when the truce is over. We have just been passing through such a time; it sorts of devices have to be used to prevent them from falling apart and to keep them strong and fit to attack when the truce is over. We have just been passing through such a time; it will now shortly be over, soon after the House of Commons meets. We are here to-night to remember some of the things that have been done in the history of the Women's Freedom League. A year ago to-day we started our little paper, The Vote, under circumstances which did not then look very encouraging. We have kept it going against very great difficulties; but this little organ of ours has become more and more worthy of your support. We have also to think of one or two of the incidents in our campaign. We commemorate the breaking of the Grille in the House of Commons, to my mind one of the most logical, one of the most telling events of our whole career. We remember also the Ballot Box Protest, concerning which there may be differences of opinion; but it was a very gallant deed. One of the heroines of that protest is with us this evening—Miss Neilans. I am sorry to say that Mrs. Chapin is not able to be present; I. wish that she had been. These are the things that we remember in the past; there are many, many other deeds of daring that it would do us good to remember in women's struggle for freedom. And in their commemoration let us not forget that just in front of us may lie harder work, more strenuous struggle, before our victory is won. We do not intend to slacken our efforts at all, and are as determined as ever we have been to win. We shall know soon after the House of Commons meets what is going to happen to the Gonciliation Bill. and are as determined as ever we have been to win. We shall know soon after the House of Commons meets what is going to happen to the Conciliation Bill. Its fate depends greatly upon ourselves, and we at the present moment have to be strongly united. I speak first for my own Society, and invite every woman here, if she has not already done so, to join the Women's Freedom League. I say that every woman ought to be in one of the great Suffrage Societies. The woman who holds back now is not worthy of the time that is to be, not worthy of that which our sisters have done, not worthy of being a woman! (Applause.) I appeal to women now to rise up in revolt against injustice, to side with us to overthrow it; those who stand back now are not worthy to take their place in the ranks of the new womanhood. worthy to take their place in the ranks of the new womanhood. Therefore, I ask that you join our Society, and that everyone in the Women's Freedom League should be on the alert, particularly keen to do sometking, keen to do anything that will help our cause to victory.

Having spoken of the Mission Week (Nov. 7 to 12) and urged those present to make it a great success, Mrs. Despard went on-

I am delighted to welcome you here to-night. As President of the Women's Freedom League I welcome our provincial

A large audience assembled in the Queen's Hall on Griday evening to celebrate the three events which re associated with October 28 in the W.F.L. calendar—the Grille Protest, the Bermondsey Ballot Box Incident, and last but not least the first anniversary of the publication of The Vote. Mrs. Despard presided. The all was decorated with the banners and devices of the eague and everywhere the colours were well in evidence, great number, of the delegates who were taking part in the Conference on the next day were present and had the opportunity of hearing Mrs. Billington-Greig's emarkable speech on the political situation. The their arms, and of men, unemployed most probably, considering that it was in working hours that we were holding our meeting. I have never spoken to a more sympathetic crowd, a more understanding crowd, and that gives us hope. The force that is behind our movement is beginning to be understood; it must be understood completely, and to make our great cause advance we, each of us, have to see that this understanding is brought about. Well, my friends, I am only Chairman to-night, and have now very great pleasure in asking Miss Neilans to speak. She is, as you know, one of the heroines of the Ballot Box Protest. (Prolonged applause.)

BERMONDSEY PROTEST MISUNDERSTOOD.

In the course of her speech Miss Neilans said:—

I am rather unfortunate to-night in that I have to represent to you the part taken by another in the Grille Protest, taken so admirably, you will remember, by Miss Muriel Matters. For five hours Miss Matters sat in the gallery of the House of Commons, and how difficult that was, how great the nervous suspense, can only be imagined by those who know Miss Matter's temperament. We are here to commemorate that protest: when Miss Matters addressed your Government as Illiberal Members of the of the House of Commons. And Mrs. Chapin, too, whose name is known well enough now among our members, although when she took her part in the thing for which some of us were so much reviled, it was not very well known in our League. I well remember the morning when she came to our office at 8 o'clock, and, beyond saying that she had complete confidence in the people who were asking her to do this thing that they would not ask her to injure any person or property, said she was ready to In the course of her speech Miss Neilans said:ask her to injure any person or property, said she was ready to take her part in carrying out what we believed to be a good and proper protest against this Government, no matter what sentence it might involve. This protest has been absolutely mis-understood, and, therefore, although it is twelve months old, I still think a few words may be said about it. We were sent to the Central Criminal Court, which is the place for dealing with murders, prosecuted by Mr. D. J. Muir, one of the most relentless of the Crown prosecutors, and sentenced as criminals for destroying two voting papers, for interfering with the sacred rights of men voters. Yet this Government to-day has deliberately interfered with and tried to destroy the right of over a million

Before calling upon Miss Lawson, Mrs. Despard said: I have very great pleasure in asking her to accept, on behalf of a few of her friends here, this very slight recognition of the very valued service she has rendered to The Vote. That service has been incalculable. Miss Lawson has succeeded in launching our Vote, in keeping it going in a most marvellous way, and I would ask her to take this little gift from some of her friends.

MISS MARIE LAWSON'S SPEECH.

Mrs. Despard, ladies and gentlemen—I offer my very sincere thanks for this beautiful and quite unexpected gift. I appreciate the gift very much, and I appreciate still more the kindly feeling which has prompted it. I shall always value it as a pleasant memento of the friendly relations which have existed between us during my connection with The Vote, and take this opportunity of thanking the directors for the friendly and splendid way in which they have co-operated with me to make this enterprise a success.

Making "The Vote."

It is twelve months ago, to the very day, since The Vote first made its appearance as the organ of the Women's Freedom League. They have been twelve months of constant effort. They have, I confess, been the most strenuous twelve months I have experienced, for during that period I have lived a double life, which I must explain as being a life of double duty. No one person is responsible for the headway we have made so far; it has been due to the combined effort of these who have helped to meet the difficulties as they presented we have made so far; it has been due to the combined effort of those who have helped to meet the difficulties as they presented themselves, to those who have never ceased to believe in the possibilities of this paper and in its field of usefulness. We have received a splendid amount of voluntary service, and in this connection I should like to mention especially the valuable service rendered by our honorary secretary, Miss Ridler, who has been untring in her efforts for the success of this paper. We are also greatly indebted for the assistance given by those in our office and to those who have acted as our honorary reporters. We gladly acknowledge, too, the contributions of such well-known writers as Cicely Hamilton, Beatrice Harraden, Laurence

Housman, Israel Zangwill, Margaret McMillan, and many others that the readers of The Vote will easily remember. The general conduct of our paper, as you know, is in the hands of directors, who are all working directors, for we have no sleeping general conduct of our paper, as you know, is in the name of directors, who are all working directors, for we have no sleeping partner amongst us. Mrs. Despard we look upon as our Publicity Agent, for as she travels up and down the country she gives The Vote the best kind of publicity wherever she goes, and uses the unique opportunities which she has for making our paper more widely known and so increasing its circulation. Mrs. How Martyn acts for us more particularly within the W.F.L., representing the joint interests of the League and its organ, and using her well-known diplomatic talents to ensure the smooth working of our plans. Mrs. Snow controls the Vote Sales Department at Robert-street, and has been untiring in her efforts on behalf of that department, and Mrs. Thomson Price has given us the benefit of her wide! journalistic experience. The Editor has brought to her task great journalistic ability, and Mrs. Billington-Greig, as leader writer, uses her pen and her wide political knowledge in the service of The Vote. So much for the personnel of the paper.

Business System Necessary.

And now I hope you will not find it altogether uninteresting if I venture to refer briefly to one or two points in connection with our organisation. For I feel that, in speaking to you tonight, I am speaking to co-partners who, as such, will realise that the success of our enterprise will depend ,to some extent, on our business system. Our enthusiasm will carry us a long way. Great designs are not accomplished without great enthusiasm; but unless we combine with our enthusiasm a certain amount of

one of the first things to which this is applicable is in connection with the control of expenses. There are many points in the details of a business where it is necessary to analyse and possibly to reduce expenditure without interfering with efficiency; in fact, where this is not done large sums of money may be needlessly expended; but I can assure those of you who are shareholders in The Vote, and those who expect to-night to become shareholders, that the utmost economy is observed in its management, and our system of checking expenditure is such that month by month we can put our finger upon any particular item which seems to be too high or which appears to require

Referring to the revenue from The Vote, Miss Lawson stated that a fairly creditable average had been maintained in the advertisement department. With regard to sales, there would be found, behind every good sales record, a selling campaign, a definite plan for carrying the paper into the hands of the public. The principal idea in connection with The Vote campaign has been street selling, and this, to the extent to which we have been able to carry it on, has been extremely successful, and we cannot be grateful enough to those of our members who have taken Tru Vote to street corners and other public places to push cannot be grateful enough to those of our members who have taken The Vote to street corners and other public places to push its sale. We want such sales increased in London and extended in the provinces before we can make our position secure. Our aim is to reach this position of security, and I am going to ask for your co-operation in this matter. Twelve months ago we appealed for money to start this paper. We asked you to subscribe £2,000 in 5s, shares, payable by instalments. That capital, Is think you will agree was a very moderate one; many would think it quite inadequate, but it was several months before we could get even the minimum sum to start the paper. Even now, after a lapse of twelve months, only half the required amount has been subscribed. We need more capital, so I have to make an appeal to you to help us by taking up required amount has been subscribed. We need more capital, so I have to make an appeal to you to help us by taking up shares. More capital is absolutely necessary if our paper is to develop and be conducted as it ought to be conducted. It is more than ever necessary now that our Bill is in a position of such crisis and peril. We know that the forces of time and progress are on our side. Even though we fall with this Bill we, or others in our places, will rise with it again, and if our paper, The Vote, can contribute, even in a small degree, to win the cause that we are struggling for them we shell feel placed. cause that we are struggling for, then we shall feel pleased and happy indeed to have been connected with it. (Applause.)

MRS. BILLINGTON-GREIG'S SPEECH.

In the course of her speech Mrs. Billington-Greig

I might say that we never did two more symbolic things than we did when we broke down the Grille and made our Ballot Box Protest at Bermondsey. I have always been an advocate for concrete examples. As a teacher many years ago I believed that a child could understand a thing better from one concrete example than if I had described it to him for a hundred years; example than if I had described it to him for a hundred years; that, wherever possible, a concrete example is an absolute necessity. And since the great British public is only a large number of overgrown children, very little more developed and much less disciplined than those at school, we have had to bring before them some concrete examples; and we did so in the House of Commons by taking hold of a great barrier and breaking it down. We said to those people in the House of Commons and the great British public outside: "You have raised an artificial barrier between the manhood and womanhood of this country, and we have broken it down! Here you have in the House of Commons an antedeluvian Grille which shuts us out from the

political life of this country; we take it, and break it, and cast political life of this country; we take it, and break it, and cast it away, as we shall cast anything else away which stands between us and our rights as free citizens!" I think there was also another point of symbolic interest in connection with this Grille incident which ought to be emphasized. It was that Miss Matters, who broke down that Grille, is a citizen of Australia, who, as a woman in her own country, is a free political agent, has equal power with a man to vote for a representative of Government there. It was fitting that she should help her sisters here to break down the barrier between them and the political life of our country. I am pleased that Miss Matters political life of our country. I am pleased that Miss Matters is with us again, and that we shall soon be able to hear her account of her recent visit to Australia.

The Bermondsey Protest .- "The Vote."

Then there was our protest at Bermondsey. I confess that is my pet protest. Nothing that has ever been done in our fight for political liberty satisfies me more than the Bermondsey Protest. I am perfectly aware there are still some people who do not understand it; but it seems to me a very proper and logical thing to do—to go to the ballot-box and protest there, in the very place from which you are excluded. We would much rather have put our ballot paper in the box; but since that was impossible we had to do something else. We could not use it in the ordinary way, so we had to use it in another way. In the very place which enables the men of this country to boast of their democracy we made our protest against a sham democracy shutting its doors in the face of the women of this nation; and I repeat, nothing whatever in the history of our campaign has given me greater pleasure. The only thing I regret is that I was prevented from making that protest in person.

The next thing is the anniversary of The Vote. The Vote is a concrete example of steady, drudging work, done by those who are not afraid of constant, persistent effort. We need a paper of our own because our arguments rarely get into the Press of this country. We need occasionally to explain ourselves, sometimes to justify ourselves, to give information of the work of our League up and down the country.

The Conciliation Bill.

All these things have been done, and our present position is All these things have been done, and our present position is that we have a unique Bill brought under unique conditions before the House of Commons. We have had many Bills there before—some many times; but every time previously the Bill was predoomed. Do not run away with the impression that the other Bills that came into the House of Commons were known to be predoomed, prejudged. It was after the Bills had been destroyed that it gradually began to creep out that people who had the charge of them had arranged for their subsequent suppression. This was the kind of humbug—and the word only mildly conveys my meaning—to which Suffragists were repeatedly treated.

Mr. Brailsford's Work.

After repeated efforts to get these things altered, and much disappointment, Mr. Brailsford—(prolonged applause)—came to do for us what we could not do for ourselves inside the House of Commons. I do not think anyone outside the House, and not closely connected with politics, can have any conception of the wonderful, masterly work done by Mr. Brailsford before it was made possible for the Conciliation Bill to pass. This Bill is a unique Bill in the history of this country. There has never been a Bill which has occupied the same position as this Bill. Previously Bills have been party Bills or private Members' Bills, and they have come into the House supported by a party or a clique, and have afterwards taken their chance for approval, amendment, or rejection.

But before this Bill was submitted to the House it had been But before this Bill was submitted to the House it had been framed to secure support in every part of the House. Practically every Member of the House of Commons had been canvassed as to the exact amount of support he would give to a Woman's Suffrage Bill, and every Suffragist's answer noted by the Conciliation Committee. Under these circumstances this Bill is a Bill for which the work generally done in the House of Commons has been done by a committee, in order to save the time of the House—enough work which could easily have taken up the time of three or four Governments. Weeks and weeks of Parliamentary time have been saved by the strenguous efforts of this time of three or four Governments. Weeks and weeks of Parliamentary time have been saved by the strenuous efforts of this Conciliation Committee. Before the Conference on the Veto of the House of Lords was called, the Conference on Woman's Suffrage began to meet. What the Conference on the House of Lords is supposed to be doing for the good of the men of the country has been accomplished by the Conciliation Committee for the good of the women of the nation, and therefore the nation at large.

Right to Facilities.

I leave it to you to consider whether the Government, in view of the unique conditions before them, have a right to refuse to give facilities for the further passage of this Bill, and whether their ordinary plea of no time to deal with it carries any con

viction. We recognise the new weapon that is being used against us—it is an old one of politicians. If you want to do a dirty trick, say the other man has done one; if you want to a dirty trick, say the other man has done one; if you want to escape censure, say your opponent has done something blameworthy, and he will be so busy trying to justify himself that he will not find time to accuse you. It is the policy of turncoats all the world over. I have not the slightest desire to say what I feel about Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Winston Churchlil. If I began, you would probably have numerous placards over London to-morrow morning with sensational headlines which would not convey the whole truth of my statements. The manner in which these politicians have dealt with the matter shows that our opponents are at the last lan. This Bill would manner in which these politicians have dealt with the matter shows that our opponents are at the last lap. This Bill would pass with certainty if the Government stood out of the way, and we say to our two new opponents: "You cannot expect us to give up a certainty for anything that is less than a certainty. What we want is a Bill that will pass; and you have that Bill now in the House of Commons placed before you by the Conciliation Committee. If you care to bring in a wider measure, we can approve or reject it according to its ability to pass through the House of Commons. We are quite prepared to take a bigger Bill if you can make it pass. Until you can make us this guarantee, we have no faith in your professions."

Closing the Door of Reform.

Not only has the present Liberal Government proved an enemy to true democracy by exercising the Veto of the Cabinet on the Woman's question; but it has forgotten the first principle of Liberal Government by closing the door on reform, and leaving no way open by which it can be reached. The Labour men are finding that out in regard to the Osborne Judgment. The whole attitude of this and the last Liberal Government towards whole attitude of this and the last Liberal Government towards Women's Suffrage has contrived to bring all Government into contempt with women. The Liberal Government has made Government a thing of scorn. The Government of this country to-day is not respected, and the women of this country have far more respect for those who undermine and destroy Governments than for those who bolster up the rottenness and shallowness of present Government methods. (Loud applause.)

*** It is hoped that there will be a generous response to the appeal for further capital for the development of The Vote. An application form for the use of members who contemplate taking up further shares will be found on page ii. of the cover in this

WELCOME TO THE FIRST MALE SUFFRAGE PRISONERS.

Messrs. Victor D. Duval and George Jacobs, who elected to serve seven days' imprisonment rather than pay the fines imposed on them in connection with their interrogation of Mr. Lloyd George outside the City Temple, were entertained to breakfast at the Eustace Miles Restaurant last Saturday immediately after last Saturday immediately after their release from Pentonville Gaol. The welcome was organised by the Men's Political Union for Women's Enfranchisement in honour of their two members, but among the hundred or so assembled were representatives of all the militant Suffrage

Mr. Frank Rutter, who presided, said the Union to which he

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sided, said the Union to which he belonged was proud of possessing as members the two first male ex-prisoners in the Suffrage cause.

Immediately after the conviction of Messrs. Duval and Jacobs, the Home Office had been asked whether they would be treated under the new regulations as political prisoners? The official reply was that: "Persons guilty of rowdyism in the street—(laughter)—or an assault on the pol ce would not, in ordinary circumstances, come within the class for whom the privileges of the new rule have been designed, but"—(laughter)—"in view of the circumstances, and as the magistrate sentenced them to serve in the second division, the Secretary of State has decided to allow the application of the rule in their case." The "but" was very significant, tion of the rule in their case." The "but" was very significant, the Chairman added, and the letter curiously contradicted the assertion of the ex-Home Secretary (Lord Gladstone) that the Home Office had no power to interfere with the decision of magistrates as to the division in which a prisoner should serve

has or her sentence.

Lady Constance Lytton, Mrs. Despard, and Miss Pankhurst also spoke, and Mr. Duval and Mr. Jacobs suitably replied.



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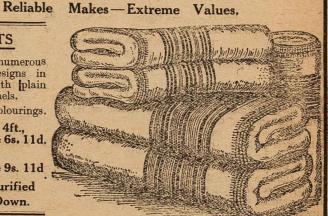
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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1910.

WHAT IS THE ALTERNATIVE?

The statements of the Prime Minister and Mr. Birrell show that there is recognition in the highest Parliamentary circles that Women's Suffrage can be no longer delayed. Mr. Birrell declares that facilities must be granted during the next Parliamentary Session, and pledges himself to support the Conciliation Bill through all its stages. He thus places himself alongside of Mr. Haldane, and these two Ministers may be taken as representing the Suffragist majority in the Cabinet at length determined to put an end to the suicidal policy of their colleagues. The Prime Minister did not commit himself at Wormit. He is still able to refuse facilities. But in place of the direct negative with which the Conciliation Committee was met in August there is now the much less definite statement that "he could not promise facilities would be provided in the Autumn Session, as the present Session should last only about a month." The Prime Minister further stated that the personal opposition of Mr. Winston Churchill and Mr. Lloyd George must not be interpreted as meaning that no further facilities would be provided for the Conciliation Bill. While no very definite deduction can be drawn from this statement, it certainly contains favourable indications. The door closed upon our Bill in August may not be set open, but it is certainly unbarred. Those who have again and again declared that the Conciliation Bill can still pass this year are justified by the more hopeful outlook of this present moment. The strenuous work which has been done during the recess, the demonstrations, the resolutions, the petitions, the growth in numbers and in unity of the movement, the rally on our behalf among the elected public bodies in the country, the enormous response to our postcard campaign, and the activity of Liberal Suffragists within their own party—all these things must have proved to the Prime Minister that he will do well to reconsider his decision. These things show the great numerical support which is behind the women's demand, and they show that convictions are so strong and urgency so great that delay has become absolutely

One other favourable feature of the Prime Minister's statement may be noted. Mr. Asquith's last letter to Lord Lytton contained not only a refusal of facilities but a statement of defence for that refusal based upon the terms and nature of the Conciliation Bill. This attempted justification of the exercise of the Cabinet veto is now omitted. The Prime Minister makes no attack upon the Conciliation Bill. He bases his statement that he "cannot promise to provide facilities" wholly upon the shortness of the coming autumn sitting. This again may be interpreted as an indication of good

It is essential always that those in control of government shall keep themselves acquainted with the Parliamentary position of every measure of importance that is before the country. This the Prime Minister, with Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill, had certainly failed to do in July. They had no clear idea of the important political work which had been performed by the Conciliation Committee. Its exhaustive inquiries, with the resulting statistics from which the chances of any Bill introduced during this Parliament can be demonstrated and determined, matters with which the body of members in the Commons were intimately acquainted, appear to have escaped their notice. As a result they showed themselves utterly incapable of realising the significance of the Conciliation Bill. They

talked at random of dictation and alternatives, utterly oblivious of the facts of the evidence. They meted out to this unique measure—a Bill not only unique in the history of Women's Suffrage, but unique in the history of Parliament—the cursory and unconsidered attentions that might have been accorded to a partisan and crudely tentative measure. The Chancellor of the Exchequer was particularly to blame in this matter, but there are indications that he has discovered his mistake, and is prepared, if occasion demands, to reconsider his position. ow the Prime Minister, who seems from the first tohave understood better the nature of the position, has shown that out of the rush and stress of Parliamentary work he tends to take a clearer view of the position and to realise the extraordinary nature of the occasion.

The plain fact of the matter is that there is practically no alternative to this Bill. Mr. Lloyd George's demand for the inclusion of votes for men's wives, Mr. Winston Churchill's sudden right-about-face into the same direction, the Prime Minister's refusal of facilities except for such a Bill as would provide "opportunity for a full consideration of the whole question," proofs of Ministerial ignorance. There is no alternative Bill that is sure to pass the House of Commons. There is no other private Bill that can hope to pass at all; there is no hope even for a Government Bill that differs in any great measure from this Bill. The recess seems to have provided opportunity for these facts to reach the chief Ministers of the Government. If this is so, and the excuse of an alternative measure is honestly abandoned, then the prospects of the immediate future

have brightened very considerably. We have pointed out from the first that any accept-

able alternative to a certainty must also be a certainty. If the Government takes away from us something which would not have been denied us by any other body, the Government denies us what is virtually a certainty. Then it must give us a certainty in return. Now, there can be no equally certain private member's Bill. That fact has been demonstrated by the figures in the hands of Mr. Brailsford. The Government has made no offer of an immediate Government Bill. The only alternative to the Conciliation Bill is a Government measure introduced during this Session and framed on such lines that its passage through the House of Commons is certain, and its passage through the House of Lords is as probable as is the passage of this essentially nonpartisan measure. This latter condition is no light one. Perhaps no Government measure can hope for so good a reception in the Lords as would be given to a Bill accepted by the Conservative party in the Commons as a just and moderate instalment of Women's Suffrage. It must be recognised that Suffragists do not ask merely for the verdict of the House of Commons. They ask for a Bill made law. They hold that the Bill which can be made law this year is the Conciliation Bill. They demand, therefore, that this Bill shall be given its opportunity. This alone will satisfy them.

There are but two weeks now to the opening of the Autumn Session. In those two weeks the more favourable prospects of the moment must be turned into certainties. This is our work.

TERESA BILLINGTON-GREIG.

RECEPTION TO DELEGATES.

The reception to the conference delegates on Sunday proved a most interesting and enjoyable function. The principal officials of the League were present, and, apart from the social nature of the function, a good deal of useful work was done in the interchanging of opinions on the work of different branches. An opportunity was also given the town members of hearing the really excellent speakers who make so many converts in Scotland, the provinces, and Wales. Miss Janet Heyes, Mrs. Whetton and Miss Jack were amongst the speakers, and Mrs. Billington-Greig contributed a most interesting address, giving the reasons why this Bill was more likely to pass the Lords than any which might be framed on party lines.

In the current number of *The Fortnightly Review Mrs.* Billington-Greig has an informative article dealing with the political situation, from which we shall give some excerpts next week.

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BRANCH NOTES.

NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON.-1, Robertstreet, Adelphi.

Croydon.-Mrs. Terry, 9, Morland-avenue.

A drawing-room meeting on Tuesday afternoon, October 25, called together by Mrs. Phillips, of Hartley, Natal-road, Thornton Heath, at which Mrs. Nevinson presided.

On Wednesday afternoon the weekly meeting of the needlework party took place. Another member contributed garments to make.

Make.

A public meeting was held at Pembroke Hall, at which Miss Manning, B.A., and Mrs. Billington-Greig spoke in their most able and convincing manner. The resolution was carried unanimously. Our thanks are due to Mr. Councillor J. Peck for taking the chair, and strongly supporting the claims of the women. Three of the local papers gave good reports of the meeting.

On Saturday, October 29, an open-air meeting was held at Morland-road. Miss Fennings took the whole meeting, and spoke well on the need of the Vote and the Conciliation Bill. The crowd was large and very interested. Several copies of the Conciliation Bill were sold. Only two of the members were present at the meeting.—E. T.

Central London Branch.-Mrs. Tritton, 1, Northcote-

There was not a very satisfactory attendance at the last branch meeting on October 24, when final instructions were given to the three delegates to the Special Conference.

given to the three delegates to the Special Conference.

It was at this meeting decided to change the day for these fortnightly gatherings to the first and third Tuesdays, which days, it is to be hoped, will prove more convenient to a greater number of members. As, however, November 1 will be polling day at Walthamstow, no meeting will be held on that day. The following week will be Suffrage Mission Week. Please look in next week's Vorm for announcement of November's branch meeting, and make a great effort to attend in order to hear and discuss your delegate's report of the Special Conference,

The upofficial presence there of about a dozen members of the

The unofficial presence there of about a dozen members of the Central London Branch showed their sense of responsibility as members of a League which is democratic in its internal organisation, and proved the interest they take in its constitution and policy.—E. G. T.

Crystal Palace and Anerley.-Miss Fennings, 149, Croydon-

On Monday, at Tram Terminus, Miss Fennings spoke for a considerable time to an interested crowd. There were several questions on militant methods and our anti-Government policy, the answers appearing to give satisfaction, which was encouraging. The Vote and Brailsford's pamphlet sold well. It was announced that the newly-formed branch of the Men's League would hold their first members' meeting on November 1 at the Suffrage Shop,

On Friday, at South Norwood Clock, Miss Daisy Gibbs very kindly spoke for us and gathered a good crowd.—E. M. F.

Battersea. - Mrs. Duval, 37, Park-rd., Wandsworth-common, S. W

Battersea.—Mrs. Duval, 37, Park-rd., Wandsworth-common, S.W. On Tuesday, October 25, we held a meeting at Taybridge-road, Mrs. Duval in the chair. Miss Fennings and Dr. Maepherson spoke. On October 28 Mrs. Reader took the chair at a meeting held at Winders-road, and found a crowd already waiting. Mr. Harding, of the Men's Political Union, made a vigorous speech. On October 30, unfortunately, our van did not arrive on Clapham-common. A chair was fetched, and when the Hon. Secretary mounted it a crowd quickly collected. Miss Manning, B.A., dealt with the Conciliation Bill. Mr. Hugh A. Franklin, of the M.P.U., gave an excellent address, and urged the men to do as he did—namely, help the women, if they wanted militant tactics to cease. Many questions were answered by both speakers. A. good_collection was taken.—E. D. D.

OTHER LONDON BRANCHES.

CLAPHAM.—Miss F. Underwood, 31, Rush Hill-road, Lavender Hill.

DULWICH.—Mrs. Moore, 86, Melbourne-grove, East Dulwich.

FINCHLEY.—Mrs. Mirchell, Saltburn, Mountfield-road, Church End.

HACKNEY.—Miss GUTTRIDGE, 17, Dunsmure-road, Stamford

Hill.

Hill.

HAMPSTEAD.—Miss Lucas, 21, Gayton-road.

HERNE HILL.—Miss Spencer, 32, Geneva-road, Brixton.

HIGHBURY.—Miss Arklay, 10, Highbury Hill, N.

HARROW.—Mrs. Huntsman, Rions, Northwick Park-road.

NORTHERN HEIGHTS.—Miss A. MITCHELL, "Merok,

Great North-road, Highgate.

PECKHAM.—Mrs. Pickering, 23, Albert-road.

SOUTHALL.—Miss Cunningham, Oakdene, Hayes.

TOTTENHAM.—Miss M. Sims, 3, Elmburst-road.

WILLESDEN.—Miss Bennett, 15, Creighton-road, Kilburn.

SOUTH OF ENGLAND BRANCHES.

EASTBOURNE.—Mrs. Dilks, 39, Milton-road. WEST SUSSEX.—Miss Cummin, Easebourne Vicarage, Midhurst.

Brighton and Hove.

If This new branch already has a good number of members, and promises to be a very energetic one. Several ward meetings are being arranged in preparation for a large meeting in the winter, and working parties are being held every Friday in different members' homes to make plain articles for a Jumble Sale at the end of November. The Sussex Men's League have opened a shop in London-road, and W.F.L. literature is welf displayed there. Any information regarding the local branch may be obtained from the joint Hon. Secretaries: Mrs. Francis, 51, Buckingham-place, Brighton; Miss Hare, 8, San Remo, Hove.

Portsmouth and Gosport. S. Whetton, 64, Devonshire-

The last of the open-air meetings was held on the Town Hall-square, Monday evening, October 24. It was very successful, and a great many questions were asked by our Liberal friends, who, like Mr. Lloyd George, oppose our Bill for demogration research. cratic reasons.

Our thanks are due to Mrs. Crawley (Hon. Secretary), who has so splendidly helped with all the meetings, taking collections, and selling The Vote. The fortnightly members' meeting was held on Thursday evening at 6, Clarence View, by the kind permission of Miss Mottershall. The delegate to the Conference was instructed how to vote. A Guarantee Fund for propaganda work was started, several members promising a small sum weekly. Members and friends will be delighted to hear that Mrs. Despard is coming to speak for us on December 2, for which we have engaged the Albert Hall. Mrs. Tremain (Hon. Treasurer) wishes me to gratefully acknowledge the following subscriptions to the Propaganda Fund: Mrs. Bremner, 4s.; Mr. Whetton, 10s. Please remember The Vote is always obtainable at Mrs. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Crawley (Hon. Secretary), who

Please remember The Vote is always obtainable at Mrs. Crawley's, 4, St. Paul's-road, Southsea.—S. Whetton.

LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE DISTRICT.—Hon. Organiser, Miss Manning, B.A., Harper-hill, Sale, Cheshire.

SALE.—Miss Geiler, "Thornlea," Wardle-road. LIVERPOOL.—Miss. Evans, 49, Kimberley Drive, Crosby. URMSTON.—Miss M. Hudson, Oaklands, Flixton. This week Manchester has had the inspiring presence of Mrs. Despard, and packed and enthusiastic meetings testified

the feeling in Manchester towards her and the cause to which she has given her energies.
On Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Despard opened the Women's

She has given her energies.

On Wednesday afternoon Mrs. Despard opened the Women's Freedom League Shop, 21, Northenden-road, Sale.

The shop furnished itself; chairs, tables, linoleum, and curtains sprang up like magic at the bidding of the secretary, and on Wednesday our premises, consisting of shop, tea-room, and meeting-room, were complete. In the shop, in addition to the literature table, a flower-stall under the management of Miss Freda Geiler, and a cake and work stall at which Mrs. Rutter was saleswoman, had been arranged. The tea-room leading out of the shop has a frieze of old Vote bills surmounting the drapery of green, white, and gold which covers the walls; so that throughout the months friends who drop in to tea will be reminded of the existence and scope of the paper.

On Wednesday afternoon the meeting-room was packed to hear our President. The opening ceremony took place immediately after the meeting, when Mrs. Despard unlocked the front door of the shop and was presented by Miss Page, on behalf of the branch members, with a bouquet in the colours of the League.

On Saturday evening Mrs. Evans (Waterloo Branch) spoke at the shop on "Women's Suffrage and the School Child."

A meeting will take place at the Suffrage Shop on Friday, November 4, at 8 p.m., when Miss Neal and Miss Manning, B.A., will be the speakers.

Manchester Central Branch.-Miss Horden, 36, Preston-

On Wednesday evening another overflowing meeting, organised by Mrs. Clegg and Mrs. Wilmot, was held in the Gaskell Hall, Plymouth-grove, Longsight. Mrs. Despard, Miss Neal, and Miss Manning were the speakers. At the beginning of the meeting we had the pleasure of announcing that the Manchester City Council had passed a resolution calling upon the Government for facilities for the Conciliation Bill by 43 votes to 10.

This announcement was received with rounds of applause

Eccles.-Miss J. Heyes, Newholme, Hazelhurst, Worsley.

An enthusiastic workers' meeting was held in Eccles on Wednesday for final discussion of the Conference agenda, but Eccles has work in hand other than holding inspiring meetings. Asked to receive a deputation of the W.F.L., Sir George Pollard, the local M.P., "always pleased to see the ladies," after some professional wriggling, gave a definite promise to interview the deputation on October 27 before a public meeting at Walkden, where he was to pose as champion of the PEOPLE. At 5 p.m. that evening he intimated by letter that the deputation was not necessary, because he had signed a card for the N.U.W.S.S., by which he bound himself to support the Conciliation Bill If THE TITLE WERE CHANGED.

TITLE WERE CHANGED.

The deputation called, and was given five minutes, to be gallantly assured by Sir George that he only could support a Bill with no chance of passing! Will Eccles show him he can support the Conciliation Bill?—M. E. Manning.

Chester.-Miss Woodall, 13, Abbey-square.

Chester.—Miss Woodall, 13, Abbey-square.

On Monday, October 24, a very good meeting was held at the Assembly Hall, Newgate-street, to hear our President, and all who came were as usual delighted, listening with great attention to all that was said both by her and Miss Janet Heyes, who came over from Manchester to speak also. Mr. H. F. Brown, LL.B., Curzon Park, very kindly took the chair for us, and in an able speech supported our cause, putting forward at the end of the meeting the resolution calling upon the present Parliament to grant facilities to the Conciliation Bill this year. It was carried unanimously. It was carried unanimously.

It was carried unanimously.

A resolution was next passed calling upon the Chester City Council to petition Parliament in favour of our Bill. It was proposed by Councillor A. S. Dutton, and seconded by Mr. Richmond. A few questions were put and ably answered by Mrs. Despard. We sold a quantity of Votes and took a good

We tried a new method of obtaining the names and addresses of sympathisers. While the audience was still seated we passed round cards, with pencils attached, which proved successful. Nearly thirty people gave their names, and several new members were thus obtained.

On Tuesday, at a meeting of the Chester Debating Society, Mr. Ellis Griffith, M.P., K.C., before being asked, expressed his opinion in favour of Votes for Women.—F. Taylor.

Waterloo.

"The women's forward movement is making rapid strides in Waterloo." Thus the local Press, in reporting Mrs. Despard's meeting on October 26. The same account tells us that "on Tuesday evening the Women's Freedom League surpassed all former efforts by securing an overflowing audience at the Olive Hall to welcome the President, Mrs. Despard."

The resolution, "That this meeting calls upon the Government to give further facilities for the People's Representation Bill this Session," was carried unanimously.

A good collection was taken; Votes and literature sold well. New members were secured, and old members inspired to make greater efforts in the future.—J. A. Evans.

OTHER PROVINCIAL BRANCHES.

CHELTENHAM.—Mrs. EARENGEY, 3, Wellington-square, MARLOW.—Miss Hayes, "Drift," Marlow.
POTTERIES.—Mrs. Pedley, 18, Bower-street, Hanley, Staffs.

SHEFFIELD.—Miss Leonard, 32, Dover-road.
WELLINGBOROUGH.—Mrs. England Smith, Newstead,
Hatton Park. Miss V. Sharman, Ivy Lodge.
WOLVERHAMPTON.—Mrs. Cresswell, 25, Rugby-street.
YORK.—Mrs. Robinson, 30, Ratcliffe-street.
SWANSEA.—Mrs. Cleeves, Chez Nous, SkeltySOUTH GLAMORGAN.—Mrs. Woolf, Royal Hotel, Cardiff.
CALDICOT.—Miss L. Corben, Ivy Lodge.
BARRY.—Mrss M. Rathbone, 7, Oxford-street.
MIDDLESBROUGH.—Miss Mahoney, 27, Waterloo-road.
SOUTH SHIELDS.—Mrs. Miller, The Poplars, Langholmeroad, East Boldon.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 1910.

road, East Boldon.
SUNDERLAND.—Miss Clark, 3, Havelock-terrage.
WEST HARTLEPOOL.—Miss J. H. Leighton, 16, Clifton-

street, Hartlepool.

HADLEIGH.—Miss Matthews, 21, Fir Tree-terrace.

IPSWICH.—Miss Andrews, 160, Norwich-road.

NORWICH.—Miss M. Jewson, Tower House, Bracondale.

IRELAND.

BANGOR, DOWN.-MISS McMaster, Arbutus, Farnham-road.

SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow: Suffrage Centre, 302, SAUCHIEHALL STREET,
GLASGOW.
Office Secretary: MISS MCARTHUR.
Hon. Treasurer: MISS BUNTEN.
Telegrams: "Tactics," Glasgow. Nat. Telephone: 495 Douglas.

At a meeting of the Wellpark W.F. Church (Dennistoun) Literary Society, held in the Church Hall, on Monday, October 24, Miss J. Hope Gibson delivered an address on "The Urgent Need of the Vote." She brought out into strong relief the disabilities under which women—and more especially the working women—laboured. She deplored the fact that so many people had the impression that it was for the mere Vote in itself the Suffragists were striving. It was something above that; the Vote was to be the lever by which these disabilities were to be removed, and women would receive their true footing in life, that of equality and co-partnership with men. The address, which was able and instructive, was listened to by an attentive and deeply appreciative audience.—M. W.

Edinburgh.—Shop and Headquarters: 33, Forrest-road.

Edinburgh.-Shop and Headquarters: 33, Forrest-road. Hon. Secretary—Miss A. B. Jack, 21, Buceleuch-place. Hon. Treasurer—Miss M. A. Wood, 67, Great King-street. Shop Secretary—Miss. Thomson, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

Shop Secretary—Mrs. Thomson, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

The joint meeting addressed by Mr. Brailsford passed off successfully. Quiet humour and sound logic characterised a speech which left no shred of argument to the opponents of the Conciliation Bill. Yet the Liberal Evening News, in a leader on the speech, while admitting that the question is now one of practical politics, stigmatised as "quaint" the idea that a House of Commons majority of 110 should lead to action on the part of the Government! Miss Lamont (N.U.W.S.S.) also spoke, and the duties of chairman were ably fulfilled by Councillor Bruce Lindsay, who has just been elected President of the local Men's League.

Bruce Lindsay, who has just been elected President of the local Men's League.

An informal "At Home" was held on Tuesday. At the evening meeting on Wednesday the speaker was Miss Chrystal McMillan, M.A., B.Sc., well known for her able advocacy of the graduates' case before the House of Lords. Her address on the Infant Mortality Report, 1910, roused much interest and discussion. Miss Sara Munro was in the chair.

Saturday night again saw us at our Castle-terrace pitch, where, in spite of heavy showers, a good crowd collected and remained till the close of the meeting. Miss Lauder and Miss McLachlan were the speakers. The Vorts sold well.

The Visiting Committee, of which Miss Jacob, B.Sc., has been appointed convener, is doing good work, special attention being directed at present to working up the Sale on November 5, and the public meeting to be addressed by Mrs. Despard and Miss Alison Neilans on November 9. Councillor Rose has kindly consented to open the Sale, and we hope that as many as possible will be present at 3 o'clock.—Helen McLachlan.

Kirkintilloch.—Miss McIntyre, Woodhead-avenue.

Kirkintilloch. - Miss McIntyre, Woodhead-avenue

The opening meeting of the Kirkintilloch Branch was held on Tuesday, October 25, in the Upper Temperance Hall, and took the form of a joint discussion with the Kirkintilloch Literary and Debating Society. The subject for discussion, which was introduced by Miss Kirby, was the Conciliation Bill. Miss Kirby ably explained the Bill, and a lively discussion followed, after which a resolution approving of the Bill was unanimously passed.—D. C. MACINTYRE, Secretary.

SCOTLAND.

DUNDEE.—Miss Clunas, 1, Blackness-crescent.
DUNFERMLINE.—Miss J. McCallum, 72, Brucefield-avenue.
KILMARNOCK.—Mrs. Cowan, 39, Boyd-street.
PERTH.—Mrs. Stirling, 5, Atholl-crescent.
SCATTERED MEMBERS.—Miss E. Murray, Moore Park, Cardross, Dumbarton.

A SPECIAL letter dealing with features of the close of her visit to Australia will be contributed by Miss Muriel Matters in our next

SUFFRAGETTES IN CONFERENCE.



Mrs. Despard presided on Saturday over the special conference of delegates from the various branches of the W.F.L. at Caxton Hall, which had been called to discuss militant developments, General Election policy, and internal developments. The discussion was of an important and far-reaching nature, and the resolutions dealing with such militant action as may result in the eventuality of the Government refusing further facilities to

Miss Alison Neilans, N.E.C. the Bill will be transmitted by the delegates to their branches in due course. THE VOTE has now such a large

circulation amongst the outside public and politicians that these matters cannot be dealt with in its pages until we are prepared to make them quite public. Members of the N.E.C. present were, Mrs. Sproson, Mrs. Wood, Miss Manning, B.A., Mrs. Snow, Mrs. Billington-Greig (Hon. Head of Political and Militant Department), Mrs. How Martyn, B.Sc. (Hon. General

Secretary), Mrs. Borrmann Wells (Hon. Head of Propaganda Department), Mrs. Vulliamy, Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Matters; Mrs. Schofield-Coates was absent through illness.

Delegates were :- Cheltenham, Miss How; Chester, Delegates were:—Cheltennam, Miss How; Chester, Miss N. Smith; Caldicot, Miss Corben; Dundee, Mrs. Allan; Dunfermline, Miss Munro; Eastbourne, Mrs. Dilks; Eccles, Miss J. Heyes; Glasgow, Miss Gibson; Ipswich, Miss Andrews; Manchester, Miss Neal; Middlesbrough, Miss Jones; Marlow, Miss Hamilton; Norwich, Miss Jewson; Potteries, Miss Benett; Portsmouth, Mrs. Whetton; South Shields, Miss Ridley; Sunderland, Misses Clark and Mail; South Glamorgan, Miss Watt; Swansea, Miss Neal; Sheffield, Miss Craig; West Sussex, Miss V. Cummin; Edinburgh, Miss Jack, Miss N. Sturton; Sale, Miss Manning; Central, Mrs. Tritton, Miss Seruya, Mrs. Tanner; Clapham, Miss Underwood; Croydon, Mrs. Finnemore; Finchley, Mrs. Mitchell; Hackney, Mrs. Mustard, Miss Gutteridge;

Hampstead, Mrs. Nevinson, Mrs. Spiller; Highbury, Mrs. Arklay; Northern Heights, Miss Dyer; Southall, Mrs. Cunningham ; Harrow, Mrs. Huntsman; Tottenham, Miss Sims; Willesden, Miss Normanton; Dulwich, Mrs.

At the end of the meeting four vacancies on the N.E.C. were filled as follows: Miss Anna Munro, Miss Tite, Miss Alison Neilans, Mrs. Francis -the fourth vacancy was due to the resignation of Miss Matters. Mrs. Wood had also resigned, as she is

going to America shortly, but her place will be filled by Miss Murray, according to the decision of the last Annual Conference.

Miss Anna Munro, N.E.C.

An interesting incident in the afternoon session was the announcement made by Mrs. Despard of the gift of Mrs. Wood (N.E.C.) to the League of £500, £250 down and the remainder in January, with the provision that the same management continues as now in the Propaganda Department. Mrs. Wood, who was loudly applauded, said that as she was unable to work any longer for the League owing to her pending departure for America, she showed her appreciation of it in the

only way possible for her. The work of the League had taken a strong hold on her, and during her connection with it in Glasgow and her recent visits to South Wales and Somerset, she had found it everywhere respected and honoured, and she gave this donation toward the funds to express as strongly as she could her conviction that the Freedom League is needed.

At the morning session. the standing orders having been agreed to, the follow-



Mrs. Francis, N.E.C

ing resolutions were carried unanimously:-

"This Conference records it intention of continuing militant action if the Conciliation Bill be defeated.

"That as militant action is an expression of revolt against the denial of human liberty, this Conference reaffirms its belief in such action, and declares it to be a duty owed by British women to their sex and to their race.

"Further, that this Conference affirms that such rebellion against injustice has the highest moral

"That this Conference binds itself to continue the policy of abstention from any militant policy directly intended to injure persons or personal property."

In the course of the discussion Miss Allan reminded the Conference that Mr. Winston Churchill had told them frankly at Dundee that the only thing that would hurt him would be the taking away of votes.

Mrs. Sproson said that every effort should be made to outflank the Government; that it had been outflanked on four occasions, and that they should concentrate on hampering its work.

"That this Conference, recognising that in all fighting campaigns there must be progressive development, declares that the time has now come for the W.F.L. to extend its anti-Government policy so as to include

interference with and impeding of all Government business including legislation, administration, taxation, and with special reference to laws making demands upon women, and to all applications of law to women.

Afternoon Session.

At the afternoon session the following resolutions were carried :-

"That the N.E.C. be requested to arrange a Conference with other Suffrage Societies with the object of trying to



find some common policy for general election work, or failing this, for making arrangements

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which would prevent their working in opposition to each other in the same constituencies."

Mrs. Despard remarked that it would be a good thing if the whole country could be mapped out. Miss Jack stated that in Edinburgh they had been doing in little what was here lined out in full. Miss Ridley told of the success of their efforts when they arranged with the local W.S.P.U. what parts of the work each should take in South Shields.

"That we oppose members of the present Cabinet and also all Liberals excepting those who voted for the second reading and grand committee stage of the Conciliation Bill, or who have rendered effective help to the Conciliation Committee, and where no special campaign is organised from headquarters branches should conduct their own campaigns in accordance with the general policy and concentrating on demonstrations at polling booths.

"That the League should concentrate on those Liberal constituencies where the majority is small or a three-cornered fight taking place, and there is

a chance of turning the scale.

"That women should organise a general strike on the lines of withdrawing all subscriptions from everything but suffrage, and refuse to do any Church, Temperance, or Social work or any but absolutely necessary household duties."

Evening Session.

Matters of internal organisation were discussed at the evening session, and it was decided that the annual Conference take place as usual in January.

Amongst the resolutions carried were:

"That in view of the greatly increased activities in the general propaganda work of the League, this Conference confirms the action of the N.E.C. in subdividing the work carried out by the Hon. Organising Secretary."

In the course of discussion on this resolution, Mrs. Despard explained that the sub-division had been made at a time when many of their officials had been ill from overwork and that the new Hon. Officer, who was a member of the N.E.C., had kindly consented to do part of the work which had formerly been done by Mrs. Billington-Greig. Mrs. Billington-Greig further said that she had tendered her resignation as being unable to cope with all the duties without assistance, and the N.E.C., refusing to accept her resignation, agreed that her duties should be divided, she retaining the militant and political department and Mrs. Borrmann Wells taking charge of Propaganda. The N.E.C. had not created a new office, they had only doubled the officers covering active work.

A resolution that the present Conference should not deal with the N.E.C., and postponing any discussion of this body or any other alterations in the Constitution until January was passed.

It was agreed that a monthly letter from the N.E.C. should appear in The Vote, and also that quarterly statements of the financial position of the different branches should be inserted under the heading of "The Treasury"; and also that weekly meetings (members only) would be held at the League offices on Friday evenings.

WALTHAMSTOW BYE-ELECTION

The W.F.L. has carried on a vigorous open-air campaign during the last week. At the principal pitches relays of speakers have kept the flag flying. The people here are keen politicians, and the heckling is very sharp, sometimes resolving itself into an animated debate among our opponents and supporters in the crowd. As election day draws near excitement grows, and we have only to show our flag at any street corner to gather an interested crowd. We hold morning, dinner-hour, afternoon, and evening meetings, these atter coming perilously near early morning meetings

sometimes. The members of the Hackney Branch have worked splendidly, as have members from other London branches. Indeed, but for the ready way in which our speakers have gone from meeting to meeting it would have been impossible to hold so many. This week Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nevinson, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Miss Irene Miller, Miss Muriel Matters, and Miss Neilans have held meetings at Hoe-street and Churchhill. It is impossible to thank personally all those who have helped so well in every way.

On Saturday a novel lantern parade was held to advertise Mrs. Despard's Leyton Town Hall meeting on Monday night (which drew an enthusiastic crowd, thanks to the device of ribbon favours given out to advertise it); after which a number of meetings were held in Leyton and Walthamstow. Concerning Polling day we shall have much to say next week.—Madge Turner, Org.

WELSH CAMPAIGN.

An original form of handbill, under the guise of a summons, was used to announce a protest meeting, held in connection with the sale of Mrs. Cleeves' thirty-pound dogcart, which had been distrained in lieu of one pound fine, of the W.F.L., held at the Bush Hotel, Sketty, at three o'clock, on October 27. It was a most appropriate one for a Tax Resistance meeting, and both Sketty village and Swansea town were delightedly excited over it.

The sale of Mrs. Cleeves' dog-cart took place at the Bush Hotel, Sketty, on Thursday afternoon. The W.F.L. held their protest meeting outside — much to the discomfort of the auctioneer, who declared the impossibility of "drowning the voice outside." Mr. Hyde opened the meeting, using the full force of his seaman's lungs, and drawing together the large crowd that was awaiting our arrival long before the advertised time of meeting.

At the sale the only persons to bid were a policeman and Mrs. Ross—one of our keenest Swansea members. The dog-cart was knocked down to Mrs. Ross, who promptly restored it to Mrs. Cleeves. This announcement was received with loud cheers. At the close of the meeting many postcards were signed, and many congratulations offered on the marked success which had attended the whole of the proceedings. Three cheers for Mrs. Cleeves were given with great gusto. A number of colliers, fresh from work, dragged the dog-cart out of the coach-house, begged Mrs. Cleeves to get into it, and ran it up to Chez Nous, a considerable part of the distance being up steep inclines.

The following resolution—copies of which have been sent to Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Asquith—was passed by a large majority:

"That this meeting protests against the action of the Government in forcing a woman to pay a tax when she is not represented."

The work for the protest has taken a great deal of our time this week, but still we managed to attend the branch meeting on Wednesday, and to write personal letters to each member of the Corporation, asking him to support a resolution demanding facilities for the third reading of the Conciliation Bill. Several of the councillors received special visits. We are leaving no stone unturned in our efforts to secure the passage of such a resolution at the next meeting of the Corporation

On Saturday, Mrs. Cleeves being in London for the Conference, Miss Sylvia Cleeves, Mr. Hyde and I went to Gowerton, "cried" our meeting, and had a very good gathering at the same corner where Miss Matters spoke fourteen months ago. Again our resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill was carried. Sunday saw the wind-up of our week's work, when we held a successful meeting at Pencawdd.

MARGUERITE A. SIDLEY.

RECENT SUFFRAGE UTTERANCES.

Mr. Asquith's Change of Tone.

At Wormit, on Friday, Mr. Asquith was interviewed by two Suffragettes, who wished to ascertain whether facilities would be given this Session for progress with the Conciliation Bill. In reply, the Premier said he could not promise that facilities would be given, as the present Session had only a month to go.

The ladies then stated that Mr. Lloyd George and Mr.

The ladies then stated that Mr. Lloyd George and Mr. Churchill had voted against the Bill, and argued that their acts, seemed to show that facilities would not be given.

Mr. Asquith replied that the vote of the Ministers named could not be interpreted as meaning that the Bill was not to receive further facilities for consideration.

The ladies thanked Mr. Asquith, and said that they supposed they would have to "wait and see." The Premier smilingly nodded.

Mr. Runciman, M.P.: Promises for Next Year.

In the course of a speech made at Dewsbury Town Hall on Tuesday afternoon last week, Mr. Runciman, President Board of Education, observed that there was not the least possibility of ensuring facilities this winter. The Budget, with formal business, would carry them up to Christmas.

them up to Christmas.

You have asked for my advice (Mr. Runciman said) and I will give it. My suggestion is that you should concentrate your efforts on claiming that next year the House of Commons shall have the right not only to express its view on the general question—it has done that already—but to deal with all the details, that the Bill shall be introduced as early as possible next Session, and that time shall be given so that it may be dealt with in the course of 1911. Then, I believe you must modify your draft. It is impossible to leave the title of the Bill in a form which definitely bars any amendment which would extend the scope of the measure. Personally I do not believe that that alteration would lose you enough Conservative support to endanger the Bill. Concentrate your efforts on 1911, and remove the main cause of opposition by altering the draft, so that there may be no restriction on amendments to extend the scope of the measure. Of course, I cannot say what will be the decision of the Cabinet next year—if we ever do meet next year—as to the programme of the Session. No one knows what may happen by next year. I can only tell you that if this request is put forward, and if it is by any means possible—I mean reasonably possible—that we can deal with a question of this magnitude in 1911, I, for my part, should consider the request a perfectly fair one, and should support it to the best of my ability.

But you will believe that I am quite sincere when I add that

my ability.

But you will believe that I am quite sincere when I add that next year is so full of political possibilities that I cannot tell you now definitely what even my own attitude will be.

Mr. Birrell: "Time for Shuffling Gone By."

Mr. Birrell received a deputation at Dublin Castle on Friday from the Irish Women's Franchise League, consisting of seven ladies from Dublin and Belfast, accompanied by Mr. Nannetti, M.P.

accompanied by Mr. Nannetti, M.P.

Mentioning that he voted for the Conciliation Bill, and supported it in the House of Commons, in the Cabinet, and elsewhere, Mr. Birrell said he would certainly vote for it again. He was not a believer in what was called universal suffrage, either manhood or womanhood, and therefore he rejoiced that the Conciliation Bill was put forward as placing on the register over a million women whose claims to have a voice in the government of the country were, in his judgment, as strong as any claim put forward by the corresponding persons of the male sex who were on the franchise-book. His strong opinion was that when Parliament met next year the question would have to be definitely decided. The Bill would have to be introduced; it would take a long time, but it was entitled to time, "And therefore," remarked Mr. Birrell, "I certainly think (and in this I am only expressing an opinion that I expressed in private before)—with apologies to members of my own party, I certainly think that the time for shuffling and delay in this matter has gone by, and that time will have to be given." It would be a big job, and it was an important matter that ought to have been treated a long time ago. He would do the best he could in the coming year to see that it obtained a full measure of Parliamentary time, which it could only obtain if facilitated by the Government.

The promise to receive this deputation was obtained from the Chief Secretary for Ireland by Mrs. Sheehy-Skeffington, M.A., and Miss Webb, both members of the I.F.L., who buttonholed him at Greystones and refused to go away until Mr. William Redmond, on behalf of Mr. Birrell, gave a promise that he would receive them.

Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, M.P., on "Women's Duty."

Speaking on Wednesday under the auspices of the Women's Labour League, at Toplady Hall, Whitefield's Tabernacle, Tottenham-court-road, Mr. Ramsay Macdonald said:

Referring to the position in which women had figured at recent elections, that the Labour Party could not possibly take the stand that a woman might assist as she did at elections and never become a fully-fiedged elector herself.

The duty of a woman nowadays was not merely to stay at home in the old-fashioned way, but to use her power and her influence so that legislation was made to protect children and help the aged and infirm to tide over difficulties and keep them out of the gutter; to maintain in them some sense of independence, some security of freedom, and some power over themselves. That was just as much the function of woman as it was the function of man.

They looked forward to women to help them in the reversal of the Osborne judgment, just as they looked to them to secure the payment of Members of Parliament. The woman's vote changed the whole outlook of politics. They did not believe they could stir up democracy until they had stirred up women.

Lord Lytton: Wanted — the Neutrality of the Government.

In the course of a speech at Manchester, at a meeting convened by the North of England Society at the Free Trade Hall, Lord Lytton said:

Trade Hall, Lord Lytton said:

I tell you that there is no justification whatever for the charges either of political jobbery or of enfranchising property that have been made against this Bill, and I would like to pay the warmest tribute I can to the disinterested manner in which the Conciliation Committee undertook the drafting of the Bill. Let me refer for a moment to the difficulty which lies in the path of non-party solution. There is one condition necessary to the passage of any private Member's Bill on non-party lines, and that is the neutrality of the Government. We have never asked the Government for more than that neutrality. We are in the position of two rival armies, a suffrage army on one side and an anti-suffrage army on the other. We are both dying to get at each other's throats. We want to fight this question out in the House of Commons, and we cannot do so without coming on ground that is occupied by the Government. Therefore we appeal to them and ask that they will allow the battle to be fought on their territory. The Government have allowed us to cross the frontier and we have won a decisive victory for the suffrage army. The question now is, Are we to be allowed to go further and to follow up the victory. At the present moment the Government say "No," and that their neutrality is at a real or the suffrage army.

OLIVE CHRISTIAN MALVERY ON NEED FOR ROWTON HOUSES FOR WOMEN.

At an "At Home" given by the Church League for Woman's Suffrage at the Steinway Hall on Wednesday evening, Mrs. Mackirdy (Olive Christian Malvery) spoke on the possibilities of the vote in assisting to improve the social conditions and to lessen the social evil.

Speaking as a home-loving woman of the impossibility of all women marrying and having homes, Mrs. Mackirdy said there were many social conditions which were not realised either by good men or good women. Listening to the night charges in a police-court was a lesson in the law's treatment of women. The case of a young girl of sixteen would be taken in a court from which all women had been excluded, and she would be exposed to the infamy and shame of being judged by a man alone in the presence of evil gloating male loungers.

From the dangers of the streets women had no protection. London was full of Rowton houses for men, but when she had suggested to a Cabinet Minister that there should be one for women she was told that they did not need a shelter, that they ought to be in their homes! To right such wrongs as these women needed the vote. There might be dangers in granting the franchise to women, but they could not possibly be greater than the evils which already exist.

Instead of rescue homes they wanted the power to shelter the respectable woman who found herself in the great cities without a roof to cover her, and whose downfall was due to this reason.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS. LONDON.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Thurs., Nov. 3.—Caxton Hall, 3 p.m. Inaugural "At Home." Mrs. Des-pard, Mrs. How Martyn, Mrs. Sproson. pard, Mrs. How Maryn, Mrs. Sproson. 1, Robert-street, 6.45 p.m. London Branches Council. St. Augustine's, Highbury-new-park, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard. Lavender-road, Falcon-road, 8 p.m.

Mrs. Reader.

Mrs. Keader.

Nov. 4.—1, Robert-street, 7.30
p.m. Mrs. Harvey's Farewell Supper
and Members' Meeting.
South Norwood Clock, 7 p.m. Mrs. Tanner

Tanner.
Winders-road, Battersea Park-road,
8 p.m. Mr. Franklin.
5.—Thornton Heath Clock, 7 p.m.
6.—Small Queen's Hall, 7.30 p.m. Lecture on
Shelley's "Prometheus Unbound," by Mrs.
Despard. Tickets: 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.
7.—7.30. Tram Terminus, Crystal Palace. Miss
Gibbs. Sat., Nov. Nov.

Mon., Nov. 7.-7.30.

Fri.,

Cibbs.

Nov. 7 to Nov. 12.—Suffrage Mission Week.

Mon., Nov. 7.—Mossburn-road, Lavender hill, 8 p.m.

Mon., Nov. 7.—Caxton Hall, 8 p.m. Inaugural Meeting of Suffrage Mission Week. Mrs. Despard, Major-General Sir Alfred Turner, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Miss Muriel Matters,

Tues., Nov. 8.—Taybridge-road, Lavender-hill, 8 p.m. Mrs. Duval and others.

Tues., Nov. 8.—9, Morland-avenue, Croydon Branch Committee Meeting, 7.45 p.m.

Thurs., Nov. 10.—Caxton Hall, 3 p.m. Miss Margaret McMillan, Mrs. Kineton Parkes.

Fri., Nov. 11.—South Norwood Clock. Miss Fennings.

Sat., Nov. 12.—Royal Albert Hall, 7.30 p.m. United Mass Meeting. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., Earl of Lytton, Archdeacon Escreet, Mr. C. S. Goldman, M.P. Mr. H. N. Brailsford. Tickets from W.F.L. Offices: 5s., 2s. 6d., 2s., 1s., and 6d.

WALES.

WALES.

WALES.
Thurs., Nov. 3.—Barry, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Marguerite Sidley.
Frid., Nov. 4.—Pontypridd, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Marguerite Sidley.
Sat., Nov. 5.—Pontypridd, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Marguerite Sidley.
Sun., Nov. 6.—Briton Ferry, 3.30 and 7.45 p.m. Mrs. Cleeves, Mr. Malcolm Mitchell, Mr. Howard Hyde, Miss Marguerite Sidley.

GLASGOW SCOTIAND

GLASGOW. SCOTLAND. Frid., Nov. 11.—Glasgow, Athenaum, 8 p.m. S Mrs. Despard and Miss Neilans. Mrs. Billington-Greig. Speakers:

Sat., Nov. 12.—Bo'ness, Market-square, 6 p.m. Speakers:

Misses Murray and Semple. EDINBURGH.

5.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. Cake and Apron Sale, 3 p.m., to be opened by Coun-cillor Rose. Open-air Meeting, Castle-Sat., Nov.

cillor Rose. Open-air Meeting, Castleterrace, 8 p.m.
8.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. "At Home," 4 p.m.
9.—Oddfellows' Hall, Forrest-road. Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Miss Alison Neilans. Chair, Rev. Wm. Main.
Frid., Nov. 11.—Heriot-Watt College. Joint Debate: Adult Suffrage v. Sex Equality. Leader for W.F.L., Miss H. McLachlan, M.A.
Tues., Nov. 15.—Y.M.C.A. Hall, Kirkintilloch. Speaker, Miss B. Semple.

PROVINCES.

Thurs., Nov. 3.—Portland Café, 114a, Portland-street, Manchester. Whist Drive, Manchester (Central Branch).

Branch).
4.—Suffrage Shop, 21, Northenden-road, Sale.
Miss Neal, Miss Manning, 8 p.m.

Tues., Nov. 8.—Suffrage Shop, 21, Northenden-road, Sale.
Miss Duncan. "At Home," 3.30 p.m,

Tues., Nov. 8.—Norwich, Mrs. Despard.

Thurs., Nov. 10.—Suffrage Shop, 21, Northenden-road. Sale.

Mrs. Rutter. "At Home."

CHESTER. Tues., Nov. 8 .- Free Library, 8 p.m. Debate.

THE Manchester Council, in the course of a notable debate last week, resolved by a majority of forty-three to ten to petition Parliament in favour of granting facilities for the Third Reading of the Conciliation Bill. The Lord Mayor was in the chair, and in the course of the debate one councillor said that the Council were the representatives of the people, whereas the M.P.'s were only the representatives of men. The result of the voting was greeted with cheers.

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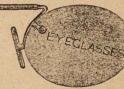
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