

"The Suffragette," May 2, 1913.

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The Suffragette

EDITED BY CHRISTABEL PANKHURST

The Official Organ of the Women's Social and Political Union.

No. 29.—VOL. I.

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1913.

Price 1d. Weekly (Post Free) ^{1 1/2d.}

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A RECORD OF FACT.

On the night of April 23rd an explosion occurred in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, and several windows were blown out.

The damage is attributed to Suffragists, but no arrests were made.

On Saturday morning, April 26th, it was discovered that a train belonging to the South-Western Railway had been fired near Teddington. Three compartments were completely burnt out, and others were considerably damaged.

On April 24th a bomb explosion occurred at the Northumberland County Council Offices in Newcastle.

During the week-end the Cricket Club Pavilion at Perth was completely destroyed by fire, many valuable relics and records being included in the destruction.

TRAIN FIRED AT TEDDINGTON.

NO ARREST MADE.

Early on Saturday morning a train, standing on the sidings between Teddington and Hampton Wick Stations of the London and South-Western Railway, was set on fire, and three second-class compartments of one coach were completely burnt out and others were considerably damaged.

The damage is attributed to Suffragists.

About three o'clock a police-constable was patrolling his beat in Sandy Lane, which runs parallel with the railway. When close to Bushey Park he saw flames issuing from the railway carriages in the siding. Hurrying to Teddington Station, he informed a signalman and the stationmaster. A message was despatched to the Teddington Fire Brigade, which quickly turned out. On arrival they found the middle section of one of the coaches burning fiercely. As a plentiful supply of water was available, the flames were extinguished in about twenty minutes.

In the carriages three empty one-gallon cans were found. These had contained petrol. A fourth can was still half-full of spirit. The seats of the compartments had been saturated with the petrol. The method of firing the train was by placing a large piece of cotton-wool, saturated with petrol, under each of the seats, with a lighted candle on the top of it.

Several other carriages in the train were found with the seats saturated in this way. Pieces of candle that had evidently burnt for some time and apparently been accidentally blown out were also discovered. Undoubtedly the whole train would have been destroyed had it not been for the early discovery of the fire and the prompt arrival of the fire brigade.

Later inquiries elicited the fact that the fire occurred in a train that was lighted by electricity. Had it happened in a gas-lighted train a serious explosion would probably have occurred, followed, possibly, by a series of other explosions, as several trains in the siding were lighted by gas.

An examination of the neighbourhood of the siding led to the discovery of a lady's small wicker dressing-case, which contained a quantity of cotton-wool similar to that disposed in the carriages, as well as a number of candles. In a field near by was a bundle of papers in a roll tied with a string to the bough of a tree. On being unrolled this was found to contain copies of journals devoted to the Suffragist campaign and a number of postcards, pamphlets, and newspaper cuttings dealing with the movement. Some of the pamphlets were addressed to Mr. Asquith and to Mr. Churchill.

EXPLOSION IN MANCHESTER FREE TRADE HALL.

WINDOWS BLOWN OUT.

Shortly before 11 o'clock on Wednesday night, April 23rd, a loud explosion startled the attendants of the Free Trade Hall in Manchester. The police were informed of the matter, and on their arrival search was made of the hall.

During the course of the investigations attention was directed to a thin cloud of smoke at the back of the platform, underneath which a smouldering heap of canvas was found, and near by a metal canister which had contained gunpowder or some other explosive substance. A further search revealed that three windows were broken. One of these windows was from twenty to twenty-five yards away, another lighted the rear staircase on the street level, and the third was a small pane of glass in a dressing-room. There was nothing left to show who placed the explosive material under the platform, but it is locally believed that Suffragettes are responsible.

BEWARE DANGEROUS BOMB!

On Thursday the 24th, a bomb explosion occurred at the Northumberland County Council offices in Newcastle.

The caretaker stated that late at night he discovered a label attached to the railing on which was inscribed the words "Beware dangerous Bomb." Almost immediately afterwards there was a loud explosion, and a window of the building was shattered.

The damage is attributed to suffragists, but no arrest was made.

"NO VOTES, NO TELEPHONES."

Telephonic communication in Norwich was partially interrupted on Wednesday, April 23rd, through damage to wires near the receivers in several public kiosks. Inside one of the kiosks was found a card bearing the words "No votes, no telephones."

CRICKET PAVILION DESTROYED BY FIRE.

VALUABLE RECORDS BURNED.

In the early hours of Saturday morning the Perthshire Cricket Club pavilion, Perth, and its contents were completely destroyed by fire. The fire was discovered by the groundsman, who immediately summoned a fire brigade, but by the time it arrived the whole building was in a blaze.

It was soon apparent that nothing could be saved from destruction, and the contents of the building, which included a number of valuable photographs, relics, and records which cannot be replaced, were totally destroyed as well as the pavilion itself.

The damage is estimated at £1,250. The fire is believed to have been caused by Suffragists, but no arrest was effected.

RAILWAY COACH IN FLAMES.

It is reported that during the week-end a train in a siding was fired at Cricklewood, one of the carriages being destroyed and it is believed the Suffragists are responsible. During the fire an explosion occurred and the roof of the carriage was blown completely off.

The Suffragette.

Official Organ of the Women's Social and Political Union.

FRIDAY, MAY 2, 1913.

PRICE ONE PENNY—EVERY THURSDAY.

Obtainable at Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son and Messrs. Wyman, in Scotland at Messrs. Menzies, and at all Newsagents, or by post 6s. 6d. per annum Foreign, 8s. 8d. per annum. IN PARIS at W. H. SMITH and SON'S, Rue de Rivoli. IN VIENNA at GOLDSCHMIED'S. NEW YORK at BRENTANO'S.

ESSEX HALL MEETING,

8 p.m.,

THURSDAY, MAY 1st.

POLICE COURT PROCEEDINGS.

MR. BODKIN OUTLINES THE CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION.

Just before three o'clock this afternoon (Wednesday) those members of the W.S.P.U. and the general public waiting in the queue at Bow Street were admitted to the Court, which was crowded, to hear the opening of the case suddenly sprung upon the W.S.P.U. The prominent members of the Union arrested were Miss Kerr, Miss Barrett, Miss Lennox, Miss Lake, and Mrs. Sanders.

Mr. Bodkin, with Mr. Lewis, appeared for the prosecution; Mr. Marshall represented the W.S.P.U.

Mr. Bodkin, in a long address to Mr. Curtis Bennett, the magistrate, said that the defendants were prominent and active members of the W.S.P.U., by means of which and by whose encouragement a very enormous number of crimes, involving damage to property, risks to life and limb, and a vast amount of inconvenience to the public had been brought about almost daily. These persons were among the ringleaders of this organisation, which continued to carry on its nefarious practices, notwithstanding repeated warnings, "for this is the second time within twelve months," he said, "that I have stood before you to deal with a case against its ringleaders. These warnings have been entirely disregarded. If anything, the number and seriousness of the crimes committed by its encouragement have increased."

It was impossible for Mr. Bodkin to open the case formally, he explained, until he had examined "the large quantity of printed matter and writing which is in course of being taken possession of by the police."

Mr. Bodkin then called upon an inspector of police, who stated that he went to the offices of the W.S.P.U. and arrested Miss Lennox, who said nothing in answer to the charge. A second inspector testified to the arrest of Mrs. Beatrice Sanders; a third stated he had arrested Miss Barrett. "Did she make any remark?" asked Mr. Bodkin.

"She asked what was the date of the first date of the warrant—what period it covered."

"What did you say?" "I said October 1, 1912."

Miss Lake's name was the next brought up by a fourth inspector.

Miss Lake also inquired as to the date of the inclusive period. October 1, 1912, it appeared, was the date in this case also.

Miss Kerr had only remarked when arrested that she supposed she must go.

Mrs. Drummond was arrested as she went into the office at 12.30. She only remarked on being arrested, "If you say so, I suppose it is so."

Formal identification of the ladies and of their arrest having been given, Mr. Bodkin agreed with the magistrate that Friday, May 2, would be convenient for the cases to be taken.

On bail being applied for, the magistrate curtly refused it.

There was no demonstration in court.

An application for the prisoners to see their friends was granted by the magistrate, with the proviso that it was to be one only in each case.

The prisoners were then taken out of court.

Some of the public remained in the neighbourhood of the court in the hope of seeing the prisoners removed. Members of the W.S.P.U. went briskly their various ways.

In the Kingsway, as they passed the W.S.P.U. offices, the Government was removing the literature necessary for the information of Mr. Bodkin in a pantechonion van. Guarded by police!

PUNISHMENT WITHOUT CONVICTION.

"The New Statesman" of April 26th contained the following leading article:

We regard with the gravest concern the latest step which the Government has taken in its efforts to escape from the dilemma in which the militant women have placed it. It is the specific evil of injustice that it provokes malignancy, and that malignancy leads in its turn to oppression. It is awkward that Mr. Asquith has up to now found no way of fulfilling the express undertaking which torpedoes the Conciliation Bill. It is, to say the least of it, inconvenient that we should, in consequence, have our empty houses burnt down and our letters singed. It is not creditable that we should fail to suppress "hoi-tism" and crime in either sex. But between the "fell and increased points" of such "mighty opposites" as Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. McKenna, M.P., we must not allow our liberties to be destroyed.

The latest device of the Home Office is to bring the Women's Social and Political League speakers before a police magistrate, for the purpose of binding them over to be of "good behaviour" under the Statute 34 Edward III., c. 1, which Parliament enacted in 1350, when the land was full of soldiers discharged after the Peace of Bretigny. At first sight there seems nothing to object to in requiring people to promise to be of good behaviour. We all ought to be of good behaviour at all times. But once the defendant is before him, the magistrate has large powers. He can fix the amount of the sum for which the defendant is bound; he can require sureties for this or any other sum that he may fix; and in default of such recognizances being entered into, he can send the defendant to prison for any period not exceeding six months—this it will be noted, without the defendant being charged with any criminal offence, and without being convicted of any offence. If a charge were preferred, the defendant might, under certain circumstances, have the right to have the case tried at the Assizes with a jury. An offence against the law would have to be proved by evidence. If it led to a conviction, the conviction might be appealed against to Quarter Sessions; and if it led to a sentence of imprisonment, this, too, might be made the subject of

appeal. But under the procedure chosen by the Government the magistrate can, without the defendant being charged with the commission of any offence, without any evidence being preferred of an offence having been committed, require the defendant to find sureties or go to gaol in default—merely because the magistrate chooses, on information received, or "on his own view and knowledge," to regard him or her as being, to use the words of the statute, "not of good fame."

This ancient statute, the very wording of which is (as Mr. Wedgwood usefully reminded the House of Commons) of doubtful authenticity, has in the past been used to the oppression of all sorts of poor people. Even a century and a half ago the judicious Burn warned the justices to be discreet in their application of it. Unfortunately it was dug up for use in Ireland, against Mr. Dillon and others, in the evil days of coercion. It has since been occasionally used in England, usually as a means of dealing leniently with petty offenders without convicting them of an offence. Now Mr. McKenna is trying to extend its use in a manner wholly unjustifiable. There is absolutely no record in this country of any proceedings under this statute against persons for merely inciting to action. It is ludicrous to contend that this was what the Parliament of 1350 meant by being "not of good fame"! If Miss Kenney can be arrested, and bound over and required to find securities, or go to prison in default, merely because the Home Office informs the magistrate that she has been "inciting" in a way that the Home Office finds inconvenient, then any Labour agitator, any person addressing a strike meeting, any unpopular person doing anything that the Home Secretary of the day may dislike, may be—under the pretence that he is what the Parliament of 1350 deemed "not of good fame"—similarly silenced or laid by the heels. "The Morning Post" has gleefully avowed as much. This power may, moreover, be exercised in a country district by any two unpaid Justices of the Peace.

This is no idle imagining. In India an exactly similar provision is to-day habitually made use of, as the officials frankly state, as a convenient administrative device in cases where detention in gaol is desired, but where, owing to lack of evidence or a desire to avoid publicity, or to avoid trouble to the officials, no formal charge is preferred. The defendant is, without charge, without evidence, without conviction, simply bound over, called upon to find sureties of such a character that it is known that

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WHAT MILITANCY MEANS.

WE have noticed lately some criticism of militant methods.

Thus the leader of the anti-militants says that recent militancy is an "outbreak of the barbaric temperament which in certain natures is bound to find expression as the result of political dissatisfaction." Now, as this lady supported militant methods of winning votes for men in South Africa, we are not at all clear as to the distinction she draws between her own nature and that of the militants in the woman suffrage movement. What, we ask, is the moral difference between her vicarious "barbarism" and the "barbarism" of the Suffragettes? These women who approve and encourage the militancy of men have obviously a temperament as "barbaric" as those other women who are militant for the sake of the liberty of their own sex.

If we believe that militancy is right for voteless men, we must necessarily believe that it is right for voteless women. If we applaud wars in South Africa and rebellions in China, we cannot logically withhold our approval where rebellion against injustice in our own land is concerned.

The anti-militants have issued a manifesto on the situation in the course of which they speak of militancy "staining" the Suffrage cause. If militancy stains the Suffrage cause, then the whole British Constitution is also stained, and stained deeply, because, as Gladstone declared, if the people had always loved order and hated violence the liberties of our country would never have been attained. British constitutional freedom has been won by militancy. Some freedom—the freedom of women—still remains to win. That is why militancy is still needed.

Hampden, one of the greatest of our Constitution-builders, a man particularly revered, we believe, by anti-militants was first a passive resister of the law and then an active resister. He was not content to attack property; he attacked human life. What is the moral difference between Hampden and a Suffragette? None, absolutely none.

When we read the anti-militants' attacks upon their militant sisters we wonder what, so far as they are concerned, has become of the fighting spirit of the British race. It is all very well to condemn in words the treachery of the Prime Minister, and to tell him he is a we'sher—"to fight him with your mouth"—but it is deeds, not words, that count in politics.

Consider the case of Montenegro! A tiny Nation; thousands of its fighting men already dead, impoverished at every point—yet holding the Powers at bay! Answering words by deeds, Montenegro is miraculously strong. All Europe against her and she defies all Europe. The British Government against her, and even many of the rank and file of British Liberals, including the "Nation," grouped against her, every other great Government against her, she fights, and, because she fights, by her weakness baffles their strength. What the end will be who can say? But the episode gives a glimpse of what militancy can do; and where the issues of right and wrong are more clearly defined than in this case it can do even more.

One thing is certain; militants need never surrender. Their bodies may be ground into the dust but they need never surrender, whereas non-militancy—obedience to unjust authority—is in itself a surrender.

Everybody admits that there are cases where law may be broken to vindicate a higher law and where violence may be done to prevent a greater violence. We have there the justification of Suffragist militancy. The existing law of the land is being broken by women in order to vindicate the higher law of the British Constitution, and of justice, that government shall be of the

people, by the people, for the people. Suffragist violence is committed with intent to put an end to the violence done to sweated women, to white slaves, to outraged children.

Even Mr. McKenna recognises such a plea as valid. When he was defending himself against the charge that in releasing the Suffragist hunger striker Miss Lenton from prison he broke the law, he said to his accuser:

I will ask him a question. If he saw a house on fire and he knew somebody was in danger of being burned to death; if the front door was locked and the windows closed, would he have any authority to commit a trespass? Would he not be committing an illegal act? Nevertheless, would it not be his duty in the nature of the case to break into the house, to commit a trespass, and to rescue the person who was in danger of death?

An admirably reasoned, admirably stated defence of Suffragist militancy! Mr. McKenna breaks the law to save life, and so do the Suffragettes.

When the militants reply to their critics, they do so that those critics may have more light and may if possible be filled with the spirit that strengthens women to stake their life and liberty and to face torture. That others should misjudge them and condemn their militancy is nothing to the militant women. They remember that One said: "Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! for so did their fathers to the false prophets."

Nor are the militants unmindful of the teaching that they shall love those that hate them and bless those that curse them. They are not bitter against the people who denounce them; personal injury they are ready to ignore. Their militancy and their attacks are directed against those who hurt others, and though it may be right to suffer injury to our-elves, we are nowhere taught that we must meekly suffer injury to others who are defenceless and oppressed.

No militant could go to prison for her own sake; no militant could endure torture merely to redress a personal wrong. It is for the sake of other people more helpless and more unhappy than themselves that the militant women are ready to pay this heavy price.

It is charged against the militants that they bring strife and violence into the world. Even if this were so, their little violence would not add much to the strife and preparation for strife, the violence and preparation for violence already there. The truth, however, is that finding strife, finding violence, finding wrong, finding cruelty, harming and hurting women, the militants defy them by pitting their small force against immensely greater force. Thereby they seek to prove that force cannot overawe women and cannot keep them in bondage.

Violence has a place in the scheme of things whatever anti-militants may say. The Creator has not disdained to use it. New lives come to birth in pain and struggle. Great storms break and leave a fresh and shining world behind them. Great wars and rebellions have in the past cleansed human society and cut out cancerous wrongs.

The militancy of women is doing a work of purification. Nowhere was purification more needed than in the relationships between men and women. These relationships ought to be, and will be, fine and ennobling. Yet all kinds of evils have come into existence where they are concerned—tyranny, impurity, inequality, prejudice. A great upheaval, a great revolution, a great blasting away of ugly things—that is militancy. It was sorely needed. The bad and the old have to be destroyed to make way for the good and the new. When militancy has done its work, then will come sweetness and cleanness, respect and trust, perfect equality and justice into the partnership between men and women.

But first must come women's breaking of fetters, their assertion of independence, their demonstration that their gentleness covers strength, and that their magnanimity is not weakness; the lesson that while they are content to exercise a joint and equal sway with men over human affairs, they will not, and, indeed, they cannot, be ruled. All that is militancy. CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

RAIDED BY THE POLICE.

FIVE ARRESTS.

At about eleven o'clock on Wednesday morning Lincoln's Inn House was raided by the police and warrants were served on five members of the staff. Police officers and plain clothes men swarmed all over the building, entering each department, and asking the names of the women found there at their various occupations.

Every member of the staff and also all voluntary workers were taken to the entrance-hall and once more their names and addresses were written down, and then each person was passed out into the street separately.

Miss Kerr, Mrs. Sanders, Miss Barrett, Miss Lennox, and Miss Lake were removed in custody to Bow Street, and there charged with conspiracy to do wilful damage.

The detectives, on first entering the office, took charge of the telephone, and subsequently men entered every department in order that no one might escape. In most cases they examined the personal belongings of the women, searching despatch cases and reading private letters; one member of the staff had great difficulty in persuading them to allow her to carry away library books.

At the time these proceedings were in progress at Lincoln's Inn House, another party of detectives, armed with a special warrant, proceeded to the printers and seized all the copy that was in course of being set up in type there for to-day's issue of the SUFFRAGETTE.

About 12.30 the SUFFRAGETTE Bus returned from an advertising tour, and its occupants were promptly ordered to enter the offices, where their names were taken. By 1 p.m. the offices were closed, and in the hands of the police.

AN IMPRESSION OF THE RAID.

BY ONE WHO WAS PRESENT.

On Wednesday morning the orderly routine of Lincoln's Inn House was suddenly and rudely disturbed by an invasion from Scotland Yard.

Constables and plain clothes detectives poured into the offices, standing twelve deep in the doorways, and blocking every possible means of exit.

Their spokesman then proceeded to explain that they had come with warrants for the arrest of certain members of the staff.

The warrants were then read, and Miss Kerr, Miss Barrett, Miss Lennox, Mrs. Sanders, and Miss Lake were arrested.

Other members of the W.S.P.U. who happened to be in the building were forbidden to leave the premises until a note had been made of the name and address of each one.

There was no confusion in the offices, and the constables must have been surprised at the cheery and amused looks with which they were greeted.

The members of the staff received the news of their arrest with the greatest equanimity, and

nowhere was there the slightest sign of agitation or despondency. Indeed, the raiding of the offices might have been an everyday affair from the philosophical calm with which it was received. In fact, it was noticed that the typists went on with their work as if nothing had happened, and were genuinely surprised, and somewhat indignant, to be greeted by a police official with the words: "Ladies, you may now put on your hats."

When hats were at length donned, and stairs descended, it was only to find the main entrance blocked by half-a-dozen stalwart policemen, and each woman was politely informed that she must await the calling of her name in the Central Hall, into which she was accordingly ushered. The Central Hall, in consequence, was soon filled with women, who quietly discussed the situation, and it was evident from their demeanour that the raid was not altogether unexpected.

Then the calling of the names began. One after another women stepped forward in response, and, having satisfied the police as to their identity, quietly left the building.

It was remarked that all bags and cases were searched by the police before their owners were allowed to depart with them.

Mrs. PANKHURST DEFEATS THE GOVERNMENT.

STILL AT LIBERTY.

On Monday last, when Mrs. Pankhurst completely ignored the terms of her licence, and remained at the residence of Mrs. Ayrton, 41, Norfolk Terrace, W., the authorities took no action in the matter.

Early on Tuesday morning, however, Mrs. Pankhurst's medical attendant received a letter from the Home Office, stating that, as Mrs. Pankhurst had not fulfilled the conditions of her licence, a warrant had been issued for her re-arrest, and a police officer would be at Mrs. Ayrton's house with it at noon. The letter went on to add that the police officer would be accompanied by a medical inspector, in order that Mrs. Pankhurst might not be removed to prison, if, upon medical examination, her condition was found to be such that her health would be seriously endangered.

The news quickly spread among friends and sympathisers, and by 11.30 a considerable crowd had assembled outside the house.

The square presented a somewhat curious appearance. Boldly challenging attention hung two large tricolours from an upper storey, and in friendly adjacent doorways, as well as on the doorstep and in the area of the house itself, were crowded little groups of women, who in this way were able to evade the "Move on, please!" of the police.

Punctually at noon Dr. Smalley, Medical Inspector of Prisons, together with Chief Inspector Quinn and another police officer, walked up to the house. They were greeted with an outburst of boosing.

On being informed of their arrival, Mrs. Ayrton demanded to see the warrant before admitting them. This was read on the doorstep, and the three men then entered the house, Mrs. Ayrton informing the medical inspector that Mrs. Pankhurst would submit to no examination.

He entered the doorway of Mrs. Pankhurst's room, but, upon her refusing to answer any questions, he bowed and immediately withdrew.

Dr. Smalley then stated that Mrs. Pankhurst was too ill to be moved, and that the licence would be renewed, but made no statement as to the length of time for which the renewal would operate.

As the three men left the house, they were greeted by the women with a veritable storm of boosing, in which the assembled crowd heartily joined. Cries of "Cowards!" "Cads!" "Murderers!" followed them out of sight.

Mrs. Pankhurst's medical adviser states that in her opinion Mrs. Pankhurst was unfit even for the excitement incident on receiving the medical inspector and police officers, and that all responsibility for the proceedings must rest with the Home Office.

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which we have neither the need nor the desire to exaggerate. It is surely obvious that, even upon the lowest grounds of political expediency, the proceedings under 34 Edward III. ought to be abandoned forthwith. What is at stake is the personal liberty of the subject; and the issue is raised in its simplest and most elementary form—namely, that of imprisonment without trial, for it is impossible to describe as a trial proceedings in which it is unnecessary to prove the commission of any criminal act. Mr. McKenna's lapse may be explained by the circumstance that he is at his wits' end for expedients wherewith to meet the tactics of the W.S.P.U. But what of the Prime Minister and the Lord Chancellor, and those 667 other gentlemen who sit in Westminster as the volunteer guardians of our liberties? Have they all allowed the Suffragettes to wreck their principles as well as their nerves?

What we did in Ireland, what we do in India—these chickens come home to roost. This is a matter in regard to

(Post Free) 14.

SELLING 'THE SUFFRAGETTE' THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

UNITED EFFORTS AND SPLENDID RESULTS.

One more day, and "Suffragette Week" will be over. In all parts of the country members of the W.S.P.U. are straining every nerve to make a magnificent educational achievement of this special scheme.

The General Secretary reports that all the various novel and attractive plans for advertising the SUFFRAGETTE are meeting with remarkable success, and that everywhere sellers are received with courtesy and interest.

A number of reports dealing with the different special schemes will be found below.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS. THE BEST WAY.

To obtain regular readers of the paper is the object of all paper-sellers. This end may be accomplished in various ways, but the most satisfactory is that of obtaining subscriptions for three, six, or twelve months. Many local and provincial centres are therefore undertaking organised house-to-house canvassing, and their efforts in this direction have met with most encouraging response.

Subscriptions: One year, 6s. 6d.; six months, 3s. 3d.

CLUBS AND LIBRARIES. SIXTY READING ROOMS SUPPLIED.

During the past week about sixty reading-rooms in clubs and libraries have been supplied with the paper as a permanent fixture. But the ground to be covered in this direction is almost limitless, and members are asked to make a point of seeing, before Suffragette Week closes, that libraries, clubs, and shops in their neighbourhood are supplied.

PAPER-SELLERS AT PUBLIC FUNCTIONS. "IS THERE ANYWHERE THAT THEY DON'T GO?"

Outside Albert Hall meetings, awaiting deputations issuing from Downing Street, round theatre queues—even at weddings—sellers of the SUFFRAGETTE have been in evidence during the past week, till a passerby was heard to exclaim, in mingled admiration and despair: "Is there anywhere that they don't go?"

THE DECORATED 'BUS. PENNIES THROWN ON THE TOP.

"Suffragette Week" opened with a flourish on Thursday, when an omnibus, gay with purple, white and green, driven by a woman, and bearing on the top a number of smartly-dressed Suffragettes, drove through the principal streets of London.

Working men, passing it, threw pennies "for the Cause" on to the top, and everywhere the originality and striking success of this advertising scheme were acclaimed. So successful was the experiment that it was repeated on the following Wednesday.

THE IRISH JAUNTING CAR. FRIENDLY GREETINGS.

An Irish jaunting car, an Irish woman driver, and four other Irish women "reading" the SUFFRAGETTE has been another attractive feature of the past week. There was a hearty response to

the invitation of the poster on the back of the car—"Come Over Here and Buy the SUFFRAGETTE!" And, whenever the speed of the car allowed, pennies for the paper were proffered by passers-by.

THE MOTOR BOAT.

A very attractive advertisement has also been successfully carried out by means of a motor-boat, which ran up and down the river, actually in front of the Terrace of the House of Commons for some time. The little boat, gay with posters and bunting in the colours attracted a large amount of admiring comment.

POSTERS.

A great many London stations have now been supplied with posters, and all those who have contributed to this scheme during the past week are heartily thanked. Much, however, still remains to be done if every station is to be supplied. A poster costs £1 5s. for one year. Who will help?

THE CHALKERS.

Every morning bands of women have started out at dawn to chalk the pavements in front of stations, tubes, and in all central localities. Such messages as: "Good Morning! Have You Read The SUFFRAGETTE?"

"Sir Edward Carson—Where is he? Free Speech is no longer free." have met the eyes of early passers-by. Downing Street pavements were adorned with the motto: "Why was Mr. Asquith late? The SUFFRAGETTE had sealed his fate." Buy and Read.

SPECIAL POSTER PARADES THREE TIMES DAILY ROUND WESTMINSTER.

Hour after hour, day by day, women have walked round Westminster wearing posters and selling papers. As the processions of poster parades go out three times daily, it will readily be understood that numbers of volunteers are needed. Who will join? Either at 10.30, 2.30, or 6.30!

SCHEMES FROM OTHER CENTRES.

From every part of the country come most encouraging reports of the progress of the paper-selling campaign. Glasgow reports the sale of over 1,400 copies of The SUFFRAGETTE on the first day; another Union, with characteristic W.S.P.U. optimism, writes: "We have ordered forty dozen and mean to sell every one."

Chalking, bill distributing, circularising, poster parading, street corner selling, decorated cars—every device that the ingenuity of woman can devise has been and is being employed to bring The SUFFRAGETTE before the public. As in Self Denial Week, Suffragettes all over the country, realising the necessity of a vigorous educational campaign, are throwing all their energies into this one week of special effort.

FLOWER FAIR AND FESTIVAL.

EMPRESS ROOMS, JUNE 3-13.

Only a month remains in which to prepare for the great Suffragette Flower Fair and Festival.

The arrangements for the Fair will be in the hands of the Central Organisation, but these can only be carried out with true W.S.P.U. effect if members come forward in large numbers with offers of help. Below will be found a number of the stalls already arranged, as well as others suggested, and for all of these help will be needed.

Suggestions of all sorts will also be most welcome—especially during the next few days. Now is the time to show how fertile are the brains and how skilful the hands of W.S.P.U. members.

A great deal of initial work with regard to the decorations and flowers must be set in hand at once. Who will lend a studio within easy reach of the Empress Rooms, where workers may congregate to organise and work?

Members and friends are asked to study the lists of stalls and make up their minds without delay as to what help they can best give.

It will readily be understood that, as the Sale is to continue for ten days, a large store of articles must be in reserve, in order that, as the stalls become depleted, they may be replenished with fresh and attractive goods.

STALLS ALREADY ARRANGED.

Among stalls for which arrangements have already been made, but for which further help will be welcome, are the following: Home and Farm Produce, Millinery, Books, Sweets, Wooden Furniture, Woman's Press.

HOME AND FARM PRODUCE.

Everyone appreciates home-made food, and it is an undertaking of considerable magnitude to keep a Home and Farm Produce Stall satisfactorily stocked throughout ten days. But this stall has been so popular in the past, and so abundantly stocked, by the generosity of friends, that it is with confidence that an appeal is made for butter, honey, poultry, home-made cakes and jams, salads, rock plants, &c.

Offers of any of these should be accompanied by a notification as to the day on which they may be expected, in order that the stock may be evenly distributed over the ten days of the sale.

MILLINERY.

A number of promises of hats, and also a little money towards the purchase of more has already been received, but the goal, as in the past, is 200 hats. You are going to buy your summer hat at the Empress Rooms, are you not? And you do not want a home-made looking hat. Of course not! And nor does anybody else!

Therefore do your best to get some hats for the sale from your milliner, as an advertisement. The names of such donors, as well as being mentioned on the programme, will be printed on a special leaflet which will be widely distributed by the sellers at the stall. Hats! Hats! Hats! Remember there must be two hundred.

BOOKSTALL. APPEAL TO AUTHORS.

Books to read, books to look at, books for children—everyone wants books, and everyone must be able to find a book he or she wants on the Empress Rooms Bookstall.

Well-known writers are asked to follow the example of those who have already sent promises, and to offer signed copies of their books for sale at the stall.

SWEET STALL. EVERY KIND OF HOME-MADE SWEETS.

This stall has been made for every popular stall, and an appeal is made for every kind of home-made confectionery. Promises will be welcome, especially if sent without delay.

WOODEN FURNITURE STALL. AN INTERESTING SCHEME.

This stall has been made possible by the enthusiasm of a sympathiser, who has offered to have all articles for it made in his joinery. Among articles that will be found on sale here are cabinets, bookshelves, chairs, stools, dolls' houses, and toys; and gifts of money with which to stock the stall, will be very welcome.

WOMAN'S PRESS.

SUFFRAGETTE LITERATURE, CHINA AND STATIONERY.

On this stall there will be, in addition to a great variety of Suffragette literature, quantities of china (leadless glaze) in particularly charming bindings of the colours including dainty tea and breakfast sets.

A case, holding valuable jewellery and lace will also be a feature of this stall, and contributions in money or kind are still needed.

SUGGESTED STALLS.

A large number of other stalls are also in course of arrangement, and offers of help towards any of them are asked for. Among them will be: American Notions, Clothing, Children's Clothing, Toys, Dolls, Baskets (including foreign work), Antiques, Gloves (including Veiling, Ties, &c.), Boots and Shoes, Summer Dresses, Bonnets and Motor-Caps, Soap and Perfumes, Cigarettes, Underlinen, Dry Groceries, Flowers and Fruit, and a Lucky Tub.

In addition there will be a Half-Price Stall, a Cat and Dog Show and Sale, a Boat Swing, Marionettes, a Punch and Judy Show, an Aunt Sally, a Golf Green, and a Bowling Alley. There will also be a Café Chantant, an American Notions Stall, and Lightning Sketches.

LETTERS OF APPRECIATION.

A number of letters of appreciation have been received from many well-known people, expressing hearty approval of and co-operation in the special scheme of "Suffragette Week."

THE "CAT AND MOUSE" BILL.

POINTS FROM THE DEBATE IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On the motion for the third reading of this Bill,

Mr. KEIR HARDIE.

Unnecessary, Harsh, and Cruel. Mr. Keir Hardie (Merthyr Tydvil, Lab.) said he rose to make a final protest against the Bill. It was unnecessary, harsh, and cruel, even for the purpose for which it was intended. It had been supposed that the Home Office were seeking for an alternative to forcible feeding, but what was offered was not such an alternative, but an addition to the powers of the Home Office in regard to forcible feeding. Under the provisions of the Bill the period of the licence, which was not to count as part of a sentence, might be prolonged indefinitely, and so the original sentence might be doubled, tripled, and even quadrupled.

Mr. HUME-WILLIAMS.

No Security.

Mr. Hume-Williams (Bassetlaw, U.) recognised that the Home Secretary was in a great difficulty and had to do something, but was afraid that the Bill would not effect the object that the Government had in view. If the conditions of release were not drastically enforced the Bill would offer a temptation to prisoners to do the very thing that the Home Secretary desired to obviate. They had no security that these persons after recovery would not commit some fresh offence of which they might never discover the author. The provision in the Bill that a person who had been released on licence might be rearrested without the authority of either the Home Secretary or a magistrate was a dangerous departure from the common law; and to suggest that a person improperly arrested could bring an action for false imprisonment was to add to the horrors of his or her sentence.

Mr. McKENNA.

No Security Possible.

Mr. McKenna said it was impossible for him to give any security that a prisoner released temporarily on licence under the Bill would observe the conditions of the licence. The alternative to the method proposed in the Bill was that those prisoners who declined to take food and could not be forcibly fed without serious risk to their health must be discharged absolutely. The possession of power to discharge such prisoners temporarily would enable him to approach somewhat nearer towards enforcing the sentences of the Courts than he could do at the present time. If prisoners who were released temporarily could not be brought back to prison immediately their licences expired, either they would have gone out of jurisdiction and would cause no further trouble or they would be rearrested sooner or later. The danger of which the hon. member spoke as to these persons being wrongly arrested without warrant by any policeman was a danger to which any hon. member

Mr. MUNRO.

No Alternative Suggestion.

Mr. Munro (Wick Burghs, L.) said the present situation was quite intolerable, and required a drastic remedy. He should vote for the third reading of the Bill, because he attached weight to the fact that the Home Secretary had come to the House with the statement that with the existing machinery he was powerless, because no alternative suggestion which had any considerable support had been made, and because he considered the Bill to be reasonable.

Sir A. MARKHAM.

The Bill Must Break Down. Sir A. Markham (Notts, Mansfield, L.) said he wished to protest against the action of the Government. They had framed the Bill in such a way that it could not be altered substantially, and the House of Commons had merely to register the decree of the Executive, which, after all, was what the House of Commons seemed to meet for now. (Opposition cheers.) The Bill must inevitably break down, and he did not like to see the House of Commons made ridiculous.

THE THREE INCITERS.

CASES ADJOURNED UNTIL SATURDAY. AN ANCIENT STATUTE.

Miss Annie Kenney, Mrs. Flora Drummond, and Mr. George Lansbury appeared at Bow Street Police Court on Saturday to answer further the complaint of inciting women to violence by inflammatory speeches, and to show cause why they should not be ordered to enter into recognisances and find sureties to keep the peace and be of good behaviour. The case of Miss Kenney was taken first, and after an interesting argument as to the interpretation of an Act of Edward III., another adjournment was ordered.

Some time before the proceedings commenced a large and demonstrative crowd assembled in Bow Street, including a number of women, who paraded up and down bearing sandwich boards and banners. Upon driving up in a motor-car, Mrs. Drummond and Miss Kenney were loudly cheered by their supporters, and a section of the crowd, consisting of men and youths, gave Mr. Lansbury an equally hearty reception. They afterwards sang "The Land Song" and the "Marseillaise," and shouting and cheering continued during the three hours that the hearing lasted.

Miss Kenney having taken her seat in the dock, Mr. Muir said he should like to bear the grounds upon which it was suggested there was jurisdiction, on the facts alleged, to bind the defendant over. Mr. Bodkin replied that such a course was justified by years and, indeed, centuries of practice. A number of police-officers produced shorthand notes of speeches made by Miss Kenney at various meetings, and also records of convictions of Suffragists.

Mr. Alexander Sandilands, a clerk in the Investigation Branch of the General Post Office, deposed that since January 27 there had been 560

cases of damage to letter-boxes in London.

Mr. Dickinson remarked that such evidence was clearly material, because in one of her speeches the defendant said it was the duty of every Suffragist to go on attacking pillar-boxes throughout the country.

"OF GOOD FAME."

At the close of the case for the prosecution, Mr. Muir submitted that there was no evidence upon which the magistrate had power to bind the defendant over. It was clear that that Act as it stood in the Statutes of the Realm was a mistranslation of the original French. The section conferred upon justices of the peace an addition to the powers they at that time possessed.

In the translation as it stood in the statute book the word "not" was inserted before the words "of good fame." Counsel supposed it was common knowledge now that the reason for that was that, many years ago, some clerk set to transcribe the Statute in book form transcribed it with the word "not" in it, and the book form, being the more convenient for reference, had been copied ever since, until matters came to be investigated and the roll itself referred to. That was the history of it.

Mr. Bodkin, replying, said he did not consider it necessary to pursue antiquarian researches into the origin of a practice that had been in existence for centuries.

Mr. Muir, however, appealed for an opportunity to submit further argument, and the magistrate said he would grant an adjournment until next Saturday, when he hoped all three cases would be disposed of. Miss Kenney and the other two defendants renewed their undertakings not to participate in the militant movement in the meantime.

notification would have to be given to the superintendent of the district in which a prisoner was living before her arrest could be effected.

Mr. Ruch (Pembroke, L.) thought regret would be widely felt that the Home Secretary had not said that this Bill would be only an alternative to forcible feeding.

The House divided, and the numbers were:

Table with 2 columns: Issue and Number of Members. For the third reading: 294. Against: 56. Majority: 238.

(Post Free 14.)

THE HYDE PARK MEETING.

WOMEN SUCCEED IN ADDRESSING THE CROWD

In spite of dismal skies and threatening clouds, thousands of people assembled in Hyde Park on Sunday afternoon, evidently intent on discovering whether or no the Suffragettes would again defy the Government's prohibition and attempt to hold a meeting in the Park.

From the expectant air of the assembled throng, it was apparent that an affirmative reply to the question was anticipated. The proceedings opened with a meeting addressed by members of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, and thither flocked men and women in their thousands, evidently expecting a Suffragette invasion of the platform.

In this, however, they were disappointed, and the vast majority of the audience settled down with every sign of interest and attention to follow the arguments of the speaker.

Nevertheless, the rowdy element, consisting for the most part of gangs of youths and boys, succeeded in making its voice heard, and as time wore on, these youths, annoyed apparently at the futility of their vocal efforts in disturbing the equanimity of the speaker, began to push against the lorry, with the idea of overturning it. The attitude of the police throughout was that of the passive observer, no effort of any kind being made to maintain order until the cart upon which the speaker stood was actually attacked.

In one instance a man, evidently the worse for liquor, stood actually shoulder to shoulder with a constable, who smiled in a benign and friendly fashion while the man, in a loud voice, incited the youths to overturn the lorry.

Meanwhile, an eager watch was maintained for the appearance of the Suffragettes. Small groups began to break off from the main meeting and to spread themselves over the Park. Unsparring criticism of the behaviour of the ill-mannered youths and strong comments upon the denial of the right of Free

Speech were to be heard on all sides.

At length the patience of the crowd was rewarded, and in a wide green space not far from the entrance gate the banner of the Women's Social and Political Union was unfurled. There was an instant stampede in its direction. Another moment, and a woman was seen to mount a platform. Amid cheers and cries of "Free Speech," she began to address the crowd.

The police made frantic efforts to reach her, and at length, by violent pushing and shoving, with an utter disregard of any injury they might inflict upon individuals in the process, they succeeded in pushing the woman from her platform, but not before she had addressed the crowd for the space of ten minutes. Many other attempts followed. Time after time the purple, white, and green banner was reared aloft, again and again the crowd formed up around it, eager to hear what the women had to say. The police, however, were now upon the alert, and every fresh effort on the part of the women to address the crowd was met by a rush in that direction on the part of the police. Men and women were badly hustled in the process, and the women's platforms were seized and deliberately broken by the police. Throughout the afternoon it was evident that some of the police were determined to offer the women no protection from the rough hooligan element in the crowd, and in several instances it was solely due to the intervention of decent-minded men that women who were taking no part in the struggle escaped severe hustling at the hands of the roughs.

As the evening wore on, the hooligan element of the crowd melted away, and the throng resolved itself into scattered groups, each group eagerly discussing the question of Women's Suffrage. Cheers were given for Free Speech and every sign of sympathy was displayed for the women in their valiant efforts to maintain a right which has been so hardly won.

THE LORDS ON THE "CAT-AND-MOUSE" BILL.

On the second reading of the "Cat-and-Mouse" Bill in the House of Lords, where its second and third readings were rushed through in a single day, the Lord Chancellor expressed his regret that the Bill should be necessary at all.

He said it was notoriously directed against a certain class of prisoners—women who had committed acts of violence and been properly sentenced, though they were actuated by no sordid or personal motive, but believed they were fighting for their liberties.

Lord Salisbury said the Opposition assented to the request of the Government with reluctance, because it was not the proper way of passing legislation affecting the liberties of the subject.

A TAX RESISTANCE MEETING.

On Monday, the 29th, the Tax Resistance League held an enthusiastic meeting at Caxton Hall, and was addressed by Mr. Zangwill. Acting on the principle that "it's ridicule that kills," he hit off the illogicalities and contradictions of the Government attitude on taxation and representation in a series of epigrams. The question before them, he said, sounded like Alice in Wonderland, but it was really Asquith in Blunderland. Perhaps the happiest hit of the evening was the maxim, "When a poor man is married to a rich woman, she enjoys taxation without representation, and he enjoys representation without taxation."

PETITIONS IN THE HOUSE.

We printed last week an account of the petition presented by Lord Robert Cecil in the House of Commons, and signed by Mrs. Fawcett, Mrs. Despard, Lady Selborne, and others, asking that women should be allowed to appear at the Bar of the House and there plead the special claim of women to enfranchisement. We have now to record that this application has been refused by the Prime Minister, who has informed Lord Robert Cecil and Mr. King that he cannot find time for any discussion of the proposal.

Meanwhile Mr. Keir Hardie has presented a further petition praying that the House would pass a resolution enabling the petitioners to be heard at the Bar of the House in favour of enfranchisement of women. This petition has been signed on behalf of the Women's Co-operative Guild, the Women's Labour League, the Fabian Women's Group, and the National Association of Midwives; and it thus represents no less than thirty-five thousand working women.

WHAT WORKING WOMEN WANT.

The following is the text of the Working Women's petition to the House of Commons:

To the HONOURABLE THE COMMONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND, in Parliament Assembled.

The undersigned, representatives of organisations of working women, Respectfully sheweth,

That Mr. Speaker having informed us that it is in the power of your honourable House to pass a Resolution whereby women shall be granted permission to appear at the Bar of the House, we, representing 34,500 working women, pray your honourable House to pass such a Resolution to enable us to lay before the House their special claims to enfranchisement, feeling that the exclusion of working women from the rights of citizenship is detrimental to the nation:—

Firstly: Because women as wage earners occupy a weaker position in the industrial world than men and therefore specially require the protection of the State in dealing with industrial legislation affecting women workers.

Secondly: Because the majority of married working women who are not wage earners are deeply concerned as wage spenders in all industrial legislation and in such social questions as taxation, education, housing, and land reform.

Thirdly: Because the lives of women are greatly affected by questions of national service, and foreign policy, and they should therefore have a voice therein as citizens.

Fourthly: Because so long as women are excluded from the counsels of the nation their capacity for public service is lost to the State.

Fifthly: Because justice demands political freedom for men and women alike, and the refusal of it to working women hinders them in the struggle they are daily waging to raise the burdens of poverty from their homes and gain a happier future for their children.

PROTEST MEETING AGAINST FORCIBLE FEEDING.

A magnificent meeting of protest against the practice of forcible feeding was held on Tuesday, the 29th, by the M.P.U. The meeting was originally planned with special reference to the case of Mr. Hugh Franklin, but fortunately he had by Tuesday been already released, though only under the provisions of the "Cat-and-Mouse" Bill. Mr. Nevinson presided, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Mr. Zangwill were among the speakers. A passionate appeal for the right of free speech was made by Mr. Scoury of the Dockers' Union. A most courageous and dignified letter from Mr. Franklin himself, who had been forcibly fed one hundred and fourteen times before his release, was read, and profoundly impressed the audience.

A HERO'S LETTER.

35, Porchester Terrace,
Hyde Park, W.,
April 29, 1913.

I am writing to tell you how grateful I am for the sympathy you are all showing with me in my protest, both by convening the meeting to-night and by bringing that brass band with ringing cheers to the very window of my cell. Will you, please, express my warmest thanks to those men who supported and proposed the resolution?

There are many impressions that are left on my mind after this seven weeks' forcible feeding in what was practically solitary confinement—impressions both of a personal and of an impersonal nature.

As I am the first who has had the honour of displaying in a practical manner contempt for the Cat-and-Mouse-trap, I want to tell you what it feels like to be lying weak and safely shut up in bed, with the Cat serenely parading in a dark-blue uniform, strutting to and fro with its back up, just beyond the bars of my cage.

I am supposed on Monday, May 12, to wend my way to Wormwood Scrubs Prison, ring the bell, and like a naughty little boy, stammer forth: "Please, sir, I've come back to be punished." In order that I may not lose myself in the intervening fortnight I am told I shall be adequately looked after so long as I place my movements into the hands of that benevolent old gentleman—the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police.

Should I, in fact, wish to leave my residence for more than twelve hours, he hopes to be immediately informed, so that he may despatch with all speed a nursemaid to see that I am not up to any boyish pranks. Moreover, believing that time might hang heavy on my hands, I am enjoined to exercise special self-control in putting on my best behaviour—as Satan so often findeth mischief for Suffrage hands to do! All these precautions, however, are but to make assurance doubly sure, since the spring which keeps my mouse-trap closed—namely, ill-health—is not likely to release its pressure much before that day of penitence—May 12th.

I intend to ignore the licence completely, as I consider I have already suffered far more than nine months' imprisonment (especially as I had been offered the first division if I ceased the hunger-strike, and was led to expect a reduction in the length of my sentence). Therefore I shall consider that, if any further imprisonment be inflicted on me, there would be just one little item lacking—namely, an offence.

HUGH FRANKLIN.

RELEASED UNDER CAT AND MOUSE BILL.

Phyllis Brady.
Millicent Deane.
Ella Stevenson.
Hugh Franklin (114 times fed).

Pleasance Pendered (to be released on Saturday).

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