

"The Suffragette," May 15, 1914.

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The Suffragette

Edited by Christabel Pankhurst.

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

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THE MILITANT SCANDAL.



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The Skied Artist Comes Into His Own.

On Tuesday afternoon a further attack was made on a Royal Academy picture, when a portrait of the Duke of Wellington by the late Sir Hubert von Herkomer was seriously damaged.

The Suffragette.

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A Review of the Week.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Owing to unforeseen circumstances we have had to reduce the size of the SUFFRAGETTE to eight pages this week, but expect to return to our usual size in our next issue.

We send an apology to the local unions whose reports have had to be omitted, and to our advertisers for whose advertisements we are unable to find space this week.

The Government's Latest Move.

The Government's latest act is to issue a writ against Mr. Drew, of the Victoria House Printing Company, Ltd. These legal proceedings have been instituted in respect of the issue of the SUFFRAGETTE for January 2.

It is obvious that the case is one of very great importance from the point of view of the Press of the country and of the entire printing trade. The Government have not yet instituted proceedings against the Unionist newspapers which have published incitement to militancy in Ulster!

The Case Against General Drummond and Mrs. Dacre Fox.

The Government hope for the attendance of General Flora Drummond and Mrs. Dacre Fox at Bow Street Police Court on Thursday, after we go to Press. In view of the accusation brought against them that they have delivered speeches inciting to violence, we have thought it well to reproduce on another page extracts from speeches supporting and inciting to violence in Ulster made by Lord Lansdowne, the leader of the Unionist Party, by Mr. Bonar Law, the leader of the Opposition in the House of Commons, and by Sir Edward Carson, the leader of the Unionists of Ulster.

and unprecedented outrage"; that he has declared that "a point comes when even the most law-abiding citizen will turn," and that he has for the encouragement of Ulster recalled the fact that "Pharaoh remained impervious to argument until things had become extremely uncomfortable for him in Egypt."

Breaking Every Law—The Use of Force.

Mr. Bonar Law has declared that in their opposition to Home Rule the Unionist Party will not be guided by the considerations and restrained by the bonds that would influence them in any ordinary political struggle but will use any means and whatever means seem likely to be most effective, and that Ulster will be justified in resisting Home Rule by force. Mr. Bonar Law has further said: "We are told that it is monstrous that we, the Constitutional Party, should countenance resistance. What else can we do?"

The Parallel of Criminality.

That the Government's offence of discriminating between women militants and Ulster militants is being more and more brought home to them is shown by the following extract from the "Daily News":

At question time one or two serious issues were raised. Mr. Keir Hardie wanted to know why proceedings have been instituted against Mrs. Drummond and Mrs. Dacre Fox for advocating militancy, while "Privy Counsellors, King's Counsel, and Army officials" doing the like in Ulster go free.

The Home Secretary declined to discuss cases sub judice. It was wrong to suppose that any objection was taken to advocacy of women's suffrage. It was advocacy of arson that mattered.

"Why is that worse than advocating armed rebellion in Ulster?" asked Mr. Keir Hardie. Mr. McKenna could not "draw any parallel of criminality." He was responsible for law and order in England—not Ireland.

The House listened very seriously to this interchange. "It's because you're afraid to tackle the other side," broke in Mr. Will Thorne bluntly, and there was a good deal of cheering.

The subject was renewed by Mr. James Hogge, who drew from the Prime Minister the statement that no criminal proceedings will be taken against the gun-runners, though there were "other steps," which should not be "made public."

"Will you advise the Home Secretary to follow a similar course with the women?" asked Mr. Keir Hardie—another of those fundamental questions that are so frequent at this time.

Sir Edward Carson's Views.

It is being said, and if the story is not true it ought to be, that Sir Edward Carson himself is feeling embarrassed and distressed by the fact that women militants are being imprisoned and tortured while he himself, whose policy is not restricted to an attack on property, but involves bloodshed, is left at liberty by the Government and applauded by a large section of the Press. Sir Edward Carson is reported to have said to a friend:

"How can I read the papers? "In one column the 'Morning Post' praises me up to the skies, in another it utterly denounces Mrs. Pankhurst."

To Buckingham Palace.

On another page we publish a message from Mrs. Pankhurst concerning the deputation to the King which will proceed to Buckingham Palace on the afternoon of Thursday, May 21. Among those forming part of the deputation is Mrs. Tuke, honorary secretary of the W.S.P.U., and if Mrs. Pankhurst should be arrested she will take the lead. A special invitation is issued to the public to be in the vicinity of the Palace, so that if the Government instruct the police to resort to Black Friday tactics of violence and assault upon members of the deputation there may be impartial witnesses of what occurs. Moreover, it is likely that the Government, realising that many members of the public are present, will not dare to carry a Black Friday policy into effect. It is important to remember that, as Mrs. Pankhurst in her message points out, to have audience of the Sovereign and thus demand of him the redress of grievances is the only political right which the women of our country enjoy. For while men can elect members of Parliament to legislate for them and to protect their interests, women have no such right; and, therefore, so far as they are concerned Parliament, as a representative assembly and a defender of their rights and interests, has no existence at all.

Forcible Feeding Torture.

The first purpose of the deputation to the King is to demand the immediate enfranchisement of women. The second purpose is to call for the release of Suffragist prisoners who are coerced while militant men, intent on bloodshed, are at liberty. Protest has to be made, too, against the hateful torture of forcible feeding. Mrs. Wood, imprisoned for her attack on the Sargent portrait of Henry James, was twice forcibly fed, and this torture would have been continued but for the fact that she became so seriously ill that the repetition of forcible feeding and her continued detention were impossible. Yet notwithstanding her illness her "Cat and Mouse" licence was dated to remain in force for only three days! Forcible feeding is still in progress in Ipswich Gaol, although the two women thus tortured are not convicted prisoners, but have been arrested on mere suspicion and dealt with throughout in the most illegal manner. They were arrested without a warrant; their rooms were searched without a warrant. The magistrates have on two occasions conducted their trial in secret, not even in the police-court, but at the door of a prison cell. This irregular and illegal proceeding has been carried through at the expense of voteless women, but men must expect very soon to be victims of similar treatment if they allow it to pass unpunished. It is under a Liberal Government that these attacks upon the right of the subject are most likely to occur.

Miss Lilian Lenton's Case.

Two serious and important examples of coercion are provided by the cases of Miss Lilian Lenton and Miss Arabella Scott. Miss Lilian Lenton, having been pursued for months by the police, who literally put the country through a sieve in order to find her, was taken to Leeds Gaol and brought up for trial after a four days' hunger and thirst strike. In spite of her serious illness the judge sentenced her to twelve months' imprisonment. Rising for the time being above her physical weakness and illness Miss Lenton made a wonderful protest in court. She has since been released after a nine days' hunger and thirst strike.

Miss Arabella Scott (Miss Catherine Reid)

was, as announced in our last issue, re-arrested at Brighton, where she has been acting as organiser for several months, and was taken to Edinburgh Gaol. She has again been released after several days' hunger strike. Miss Ansell, another "Cat-and-Mouse" victim was arrested on a fresh charge on Tuesday last, that of destroying a picture at the Royal Academy. She was committed to the sessions, and was on Wednesday sentenced to six months' hard labour. She is now on hunger and thirst strike.

Mr. J. R. MacDonald's Attitude.

It is not to the Labour leader, Mr. J. R. MacDonald that the public can look for the defence of the liberty of the subject. Judging by his record it is difficult to imagine any outrage which the Government would commit that would lose them Mr. MacDonald's support. For their seats in Parliament and the smiles of Lloyd George, and, we may add, of the Prime Minister, Mr. J. R. MacDonald and his Labour colleagues will part with the whole liberties of women, and even of men. Mr. MacDonald would seem to have been framing his own political epitaph when he said the other day at the North-East Derbyshire election:

Men who secretly give their allegiance to Liberalism while professing to be Labour can do no good to either Party and ought to be on the scrapheap.

Not much secrecy, though, about Mr. MacDonald's allegiance to the Liberal Government! It is very plain to be seen.

Ulster Militancy and Women's Militancy Identical.

Such practical and substantial gain as the debate on Woman's Suffrage in the House of Lords afforded is summed up in this, that the essential identity of women's militancy and Ulster militancy was put on record, the Government's policy of coercing women militants while making concession to Ulster men militants was condemned; and the removal of the wrongs and grievances which impel women to militancy was demanded. Incidentally, a new revelation was made of the weakness of the case against votes for women and the immoral considerations upon which this case is founded, but, unfortunately, that victory of abstract justice does not take us very far, and the really important point made in the debate is, as we have said above, that women's militancy and Ulster militancy are identical and ought to be treated in the same way—that just as concession is offered to militant Ulster so it ought to be offered, in the shape of the Vote, to militant women.

"An Uncontrollable Tendency Towards Outrages on Children."

At the half yearly Conference of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, a resolution was carried expressing the opinion that to the classes of mentally deficient prisoners liable to be dealt with under the Mental Deficiency Act should be added "those with an uncontrollable tendency towards outrages on children." This point was urged by the W.S.P.U. before the Mental Deficiency Act became law, but apparently Members of Parliament are of the opinion expressed by one of the judges that offences against children "are not ordinary crimes like stealing and forgery, but may be committed by the best conducted persons." The judge in question has, as it happens, been a candidate for election to Parliament! Those who commit outrages on children are a public danger of the most terrible kind and certainly should not be at large.

"The Offences of Young Women."

Discussing the Borstal treatment in its application to young women, the Home Secretary said to a Committee of the House of Commons the other day that "The difficulty of dealing with women in Borstal institutions is very much greater than in the case of men, owing to the character and nature of the offences of young women. When young women have a natural weakness of moral character they are much more difficult to keep straight after discharge than men. Moreover, there is not the same variety of trades they can be taught. There are two comments to be made upon this. First of all, when Mr. McKenna refers to "the offences of young women" he means that most of them are in prison for "soliciting" and negotiating for the purpose of prostitution, which where men are concerned is not contrary to law. That prostitution is a degradation to the individuals concerned and a crime against the race is perfectly true, but why should women be more subject to legal punishment than men? For every young woman who has what Mr. McKenna described as "natural weakness of moral character" there are several men who have the same weakness, and indeed a far greater one, because the question of economic necessity—in other words the pressure of starvation—does not enter into the matter in their case.

When Women Get the Vote.

If the woman partner in the bargain of immorality were made as immune from legal attack as men at present are, the women whom Mr. McKenna finds so "difficult to deal with" in Borstal institutions would not be in these institutions at all.

As regards the second point, that concerning the restricted number of trades into which women can enter, this restriction is due to artificial causes which can, and will, be removed when women get the vote. If even the Government find it difficult to ensure that women when they leave their care shall be trained and shall enjoy the opportunity to earn an honest livelihood, how can they blame the woman prisoner for having failed before she entered the Borstal institution to earn such a livelihood and thus keep out of the morass of prostitution?

War Upon Women.

The utterly cruel and merciless treatment meted out to women of all classes by a Government and Parliament responsible only to men is daily and repeatedly exemplified. In his recent letter to the Press Mr. J. Theodore Dodd, J.P., mentions what he describes as "a few examples of cruelty to married women" and these are as follows:

- 1. Refusal of the workhouse infirmary to sick woman in urgent need, unless the husband (who is not ill) will come into the workhouse.
2. Refusal of admission to workhouse of married woman in great destitution because her husband will not come in.
3. Refusal of admission to married woman because, though her husband could not support her, he had not deserted her.
4. Refusal of medical nourishment ordered by the doctor because the husband refused to apply.

Dr. McVail, adds Mr. Dodd, points out to the Royal Commission that in some cases married women expecting their confinement pretended to be single or deserted, so as to get into the workhouse infirmary!

Even by the Insurance Act the health of married women—in other words, the life capital of the race—is treated as of less account than the health of men. At every turn this policy of national suicide is put into effect by the men of the country.

A Correction.

Owing to errors in transmission, the following correction has to be made in last week's leading article, entitled "The Lords on Votes for Women":

The sentence which is incorrectly printed ending with the words, "the rift of the latest refusal to accept British rule," should read as follows: "The respect of native races for the white race is undermined, and among the consequences that flow from this are what is known as the 'black peril' in South Africa, and the risk of the native races' refusal to accept British rule."

£250,000 Fund.

Contributions Feb. 26 to Feb. 28, 1914.

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The Way to Victory.

"In view of this grave and unprecedented outrage the House may be assured that His Majesty's Government will take without delay appropriate steps to vindicate the authority of the law."

Thus spake Mr. Asquith on the morrow of the gun-running in Ulster. His solemn words were applauded by his supporters who made sure that the promoters of Ulster militancy were now to be cast into gaol.

But having uttered his resounding and imposing words, having held out the threat of dire punishment to those responsible for the militant doings in Ulster, Mr. Asquith, as always in his dealings with men militants, climbed down, and he has just said in the House of Commons:

"The Government have decided not to take criminal proceedings against the persons concerned in the recent incidents referred to."

Now if the Government will not take criminal proceedings against militant Ulster

men, what right have they to take proceedings against militant Suffragist women?

The scandal of imprisoning and torturing women while men are allowed to go free is all the greater because of the fact that, on the Prime Minister's own showing, the guilt of the militant men is blacker than the guilt of the militant women. For has not the Prime Minister described the gun-running as "a grave and unprecedented outrage," and is not the plain and obvious meaning of these words that this outrage being grave and unprecedented is more grave than any of the outrages which the militant women have committed!

And, more than that, the militant resistance to Home Rule means bloodshed—means the death of a large number of human beings and the wounding of many others—What are guns for save to wound and to kill! Whereas the militant women respect human life, and have, none of them, done anything worse than attack mere inanimate property.

Challenged by Mr. Keir Hardie to explain why there are to be no criminal proceedings against the militant opponents of Home Rule while criminal proceedings are being taken against militant women—and we may add against men alleged to be concerned in the production of the Union's paper, the SUFFRAGETTE—the Prime Minister made no reply.

The Home Secretary, however, questioned in the same sense declared that he can draw *no parallel of criminality between Ulster militants and Suffragist militants.*

The Home Secretary is not entirely alone in his inability to draw a parallel of criminality between women's militancy and that of Ulster. For the "Morning Post," the defender of men's militancy and opponent of women's militancy, says that:

"The Ulster volunteers are organising to resist an attempt to deprive them of their present position under the Home Rule Bill. The militants are using violence to obtain certain privileges which they have not at present got. There lies the difference. The women want something which is not theirs; the men want to keep something which is theirs."

A more immoral course of argument we never knew! The old saying has it that possession is nine parts of the law. The "Morning Post" says that it is ten points of the law—every point of the law! One may fight for the thing one has got whether one has it rightfully or no—in the way that a dog will snarl at an attempt to take away his bone. But to fight for a right, however precious and however strongly based in justice, that one has not in possession, is, we are told, quite a different matter.

This may be men's morality; it is not women's! The withholding of a right from

women of which they have been long deprived is quite as iniquitous as the taking away from men of some right which they have actually possessed until now.

There are people, however, who, unlike Mr. McKenna and the "Morning Post" can and do draw the parallel of criminality between militant women and militant Ulster men. They believe, and more and more they are saying that Ulster militancy and Suffragist militancy are in their essence one and the same—except that women's militancy is the more justified and Ulster militancy is the more violent and extreme.

We may refer again, as we referred last week to the declaration made by the Bishop of London in the House of Lords that he cannot understand how those who sympathise with Ulster's militant opposition to Home Rule can refuse a like sympathy to women's militant opposition to their disfranchisement. We may refer again to his statement that just as the Government are trying to find a way out of the impasse created by the militancy of Ulster so it is their duty to find the way out of the impasse created by women's militancy—that way being the immediate enactment of a Woman's Suffrage measure. The Bishop has warned the Government that the refusal to give votes for women means the creation of a Women's Ulster. Indeed a Women's Ulster exists already.

For a very long time the W.S.P.U. has been making its protest against the Government's policy of coercing and persecuting militant women while licensing law breaking and militancy on the part of Ulster men. And now the whole world is recognising, and the better and wiser part of it is saying, how intolerably unjust is this discrimination between militant men and militant women.

Coercion for women, persecution for women, torture for women—these things are doomed, and when they can be no more applied then will come the day of concession, the day of votes for women.

Victory—votes for women—can come *now* if the weapon of coercion that is being used against the Suffragettes is wrenched from the Government's hands.

If coercion be made impossible, women can say, as Mr. Redmond has said, "the vision that has sustained us through long years in the wilderness and in the prison cell is about to be realised not next year, nor the year after, but in a few weeks." And women, on the downfall of coercion, can say this with more confidence than Mr. Redmond because there is no effective opposition to Woman Suffrage such as the opposition of Ulster to Home Rule.

Those who condemn women's militancy instead of condemning and preventing the Government's coercion of women are doing all they can to destroy the bright prospect of victory. They are the anti-suffragist Liberal Government's most helpful allies.

CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.

The Deputation to the King.

Mrs. Pankhurst's Message

ON Thursday the 21st of this month, a deputation of members of the W.S.P.U. will wait upon his Majesty the King in order to lay before him reasons why he should assist his women subjects in their struggle for political freedom.

The right to petition the reigning monarch is the oldest of all political rights. It is the only political right that women have in Great Britain.

We who now intend to exercise it do so because the needs of women are very urgent and the welfare of our country depends upon the immediate granting of our demand for enfranchisement.

May the spirit that animated those who fought for liberty in the past inspire us with courage to do our duty!

E. PANKHURST.

MEN MILITANTS INCITE TO MURDER. HUMAN LIFE OF NO ACCOUNT.

RIGHT HON. A. J. BONAR LAW

On Coercion of Ulster.

"Then they (the Government) are deliberately shutting out from ourselves the right to go back upon the decision they are now taking. What does it mean? It means simply this: that they know that if Ulster is in earnest, that if Ulster does resist by force, there are stronger influences than Parliament majorities. They know that in that case no Government would dare to use their troops to drive them out. They know, as a matter of fact, that the Government that gave the order to employ troops for that purpose would run a great risk of being lynched in London. . . .

"They have said to the people of Ulster: 'Convince us that you are earnest, show us that you mean to fight, and we will yield to you as we have yielded to everybody else.' They talk about incendiary language. What they are doing is to invite the people of Ulster to show, not by language but by acts, that they are determined."—*Handmaid's Parliamentary Debates*, June 18, 1912.

"We do not acknowledge their right to carry such a revolution by such means. We do not recognise that any such action is the constitutional government of a free people. We regard them as a revolutionary committee which has seized by fraud upon despotic power. In our opposition to them we shall not be guided by the considerations, we shall not be restrained by the bonds, which would influence us in any ordinary political struggle. We shall use any means, whatever means seem to us likely to be most effective. They (Ulster) would be justified in resisting by all means in their power, including force."—*At Blenheim*, July 28, 1912.

"We are told that it is monstrous that we, the constitutional party, should countenance resistance. I put it to you—What else can we do?"—*At Carnarvon*, December 12, 1913.

"The people of Ulster have their fate in their own hands; if they show that they will not submit to this injustice the people of Great Britain would never suffer it to be imposed upon them. They have shown how they intend to deal with their fate, and they have had in my friend, Sir Edward Carson, a leader of whom I can give no higher praise than to say this, that he is worthy of the people whom he leads. But it is not Sir Edward Carson alone that is the cause of the position in which Ulster stands to-day. They are a great people, and anyone who has seen them, as I was privileged to do more than two years ago, can never doubt that with them this was something which they would never surrender, that they are not, as our opponents are constantly telling us, alarmed about their fears. It is not that. They are fighting, and they will fight as all our great people have fought, for their rights."—*At a Luncheon at the Whitehall Rooms, Hotel Metropole, February 24, 1914.*

SIR EDWARD CARSON.

Sir Edward Carson's Threat—Will Break Every Possible Law.

"He did not understand what had taken place within the last few days, when a most extraordinary distinction had been made in relation to prisoners convicted by the Courts. One class of persons were sent to gaol for inciting to violence and another class were forgiven when they had done exactly the same kind of incitement. That was due to the existence of a craven Government, which was beneath contempt. Well, after what happened to the policy of the Government in relation to Ulster, he intended when he went over there to break every law that was possible. He was not a bit afraid of them, for a more wretched, miserable, time-serving, opportunist lot never had before sat in Parliament. It was not until Englishmen had been well kicked that they aroused from their apathy. But they had other methods, other means which it was not necessary to mention now, and Ulster could be relied upon to adopt braver and better methods and would not shirk the consequences."—*Extract from the "Manchester Guardian," June 25, 1912.*

"I tell you that when they are trying to force this Home Rule policy upon us by methods of this kind, it gives me the right to say: 'Your Bill has no moral force; we will not accept; and as you have treated us with fraud, if necessary we will treat you with force.'—*At Belfast, April 10, 1912.*

"Therefore it is that you are out to-day to show and convince me that you are making preparations if necessary to defy this infamous law, and with all my heart I commend that defiance to you."—*At Killeel, September 19, 1913.*

"I am told it will be illegal. Of course it will. Drilling is illegal, volunteers are illegal. The Government know they are illegal and the Government dare not interfere with what is illegal. (Cheers.) Therefore do not be afraid of illegalities."

"The Unionist Party was with Ulster, which meant that if necessary they should resist by force and to the end. . . . After these words from Lord Lansdowne he would go forward in this movement with the most absolute certainty not only that he was right, but that he was going to win."—*At Nottingham, December 5, 1913.*

"Well, I tell them, if they dare to come and attack us the red blood will certainly flow."—*At Belfast, inspecting the East Belfast Regiment of the Ulster Volunteer Force, January 18, 1914.*

"He frankly confessed that for two years he and those who trusted him had been doing their best to render it impossible under any conditions, and, he believed, with great humility, that they had now arrived at that state of organisation in the North of Ireland that even if the Bill was put on the Statute Book they would render the carrying out of it impossible. . . . He himself within the last few days—it was no harm to confess it—had authorised the expenditure of £60,000 to £80,000 towards their defence if it was immediately necessary."—*Cannon Street Hotel, London, February 18, 1914.*

"If the Government want a compromise they can have it by leaving us in the United Kingdom and on no other terms. We have done nothing to deserve being driven out. . . . Come what may, with God's help and your assistance we will fight it out to the bitter end. We will have no surrender."—*Ulster Demonstration, Hyde Park, April 4, 1914.*

" . . . He believed they would be justified in resisting the measure to the last extremity

" . . . I have no doubt that schemes will be formulated by these great leaders, and that when the hour of trial comes the Government will have to fight not merely the community of Ulster but the whole great community of the Unionist and Conservative Party (Cheers). We will be rebels. You will also be rebels, and I venture to think that the label of rebel will be a far higher distinction than even the label of Prime Ministers of this country."—*Chester Skating Rink, January 23, 1914.*

LORD LANSDOWNE

At the St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow.

" . . . I confess I have no patience with the smug critics who hold up their hands in horror over the action which is being taken in Ulster at this moment by Sir Edward Carson and his friends. (Loud cheers.) We are law-abiding people in this country, but there sometimes comes a point when even the most law-abiding citizen will turn. (Hear, hear.) That point in the case of Ulster has been reached.

" . . . The situation, therefore, in my view remains full of danger, and I think we must be prepared for the worst I venture to think it is this, that Unionists in Ireland have no reason to desist from their preparations (cheers), and that Unionists in this country ought not to recede from their position, and should continue to give their brother Unionists in Ireland all the encouragement which they can afford (Cheers). One recalls naturally that Pharaoh remained impervious to argument until things had become extremely uncomfortable for him in Egypt."—*At the St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, December 3, 1913.*

"The other blunder of His Majesty's Government is their irresolute treatment of Ulster. If they intend to coerce Ulster they ought to have made that clear long ago. Why did they allow Sir Edward Carson to come and go and to organise the admirable, efficient system, which we now see in the province of Ulster? Why did they allow an Ulster army of 100,000 men to grow up under their noses? Did anybody suppose that these Ulster soldiers were intended for ornamental purposes?

" . . . All these things have rendered the situation more and more acute. We have had the landing of a large quantity of arms in Ulster, and on that I will say that I think everyone must have been impressed by the extraordinary efficiency of the arrangements and by the remarkable sympathy which the proceedings elicited from the whole of the civil population of the neighbourhood.

" . . . Does the country believe in this Bill? ('No.') Does it believe in coercion for Ulster? ('No.') How many voters would they have got in 1910 if they had announced that they were going to coerce Ulster two years later?"—*At the Albert Hall, May 1, 1914.*

ANOTHER PICTURE SLASHED WITH A HATCHET.

Sensational Scene at the Academy.

BOMB EXPLOSION AT SPURGEON'S TABERNACLE.

DUKE OF WELLINGTON'S PORTRAIT SLASHED.

WOMAN ARRESTED AT THE ACADEMY.

DAMAGE TO VALUABLE HERKOMER PICTURE.

More than eighty years ago, the Duke of Wellington had his windows broken for the sake of votes for men, and now the portrait of his grandson has been damaged for the sake of votes for women.

Following closely upon the attack which was made last week upon Mr. Sargent's portrait of Mr. Henry James, a similar sensation was created in the Royal Academy on Tuesday afternoon, when a woman slashed a painting of the Duke of Wellington, by the late Sir Hubert von Herkomer.

Three Determined Slashes.

The attack occurred about half-past two, when a number of visitors were in the gallery. The picture is a large one and was hung in Gallery III, the same room in which the Sargent portrait was mutilated. It was about half-past two when the sound of breaking glass brought the crowds hurrying to the spot, and, in spite of the number of attendants, the woman was able to make three determined slashes at the picture before she was seized.

The visitors to the Academy were all in a great state of excitement and nervousness, and one Australian was heard to say, "Australians cannot understand women having to do this sort of thing to get the vote."

COMMITTED FOR TRIAL.

"I Rejoice That I Have Not Failed in My Duty."

Later in the day, Miss Gertrude Mary Ansell, aged 50, address and occupation refused, who was said to be a prisoner released under the "Cat-and-Mouse Act," was charged, before Mr. Denman at Marlborough Street, with wilfully and maliciously damaging the portrait.

After evidence of the arrest had been given, Mr. Walter R. M. Lamb, secretary to the Royal Academy, said the picture was about 5ft. by 7ft. The glass was broken, and there were two cuts through the canvas. The face was not disfigured, owing to its being too high up. There were also some minor scratches on the canvas from broken glass. The damage was about £15.

On the magistrate asking her if she wished to say anything in answer to the charge, Miss Ansell stated the reasons why she had made the protest. These reasons are contained in the following statement which was sent to the W.S.P.U.:

Miss Ansell's Statement.

"My deed is a protest against the injustice of the present position of women, recently more than ever accentuated by the persecution of Mrs. Pankhurst while Sir Edward Carson is free, and summoning Mrs. Drummond and Mrs. Dacre Fox while Ulster militants are let alone.

"The need for the enfranchisement of women is most urgent. Take the case at Birkenhead when a boy of 15 criminally assaulted a child of 44 and was merely fined £1.

"I have myself visited a home where there are 44 children, all under 12 years of age, who have been outraged by male relatives, half of whom have not been punished at all. Women feel that such men should be kept away from their kind until they realise the wrong they have done. And we feel, further, that the inadequate treatment of these cases fosters and encourages crime.

"It is facts such as these, and the subjected position of women generally, that nerves us to protest by defiant acts.

"Anyone who will give but cursory unbiased attention to the history of our struggle for enfranchisement will realise that nothing but militancy is of any use.

"I have done my deed deliberately and rejoice that I have not failed in my duty."

Miss Ansell was then committed for trial.

BOMB AT FAMOUS CHAPEL.

GUNPOWDER EXPLOSION.

DAMAGE AT SPURGEON'S TABERNACLE.

The Metropolitan Tabernacle, at Newington Butts, made famous by the Rev. Charles Spurgeon, was last Sunday the scene of an explosion, which has been attributed to Suffragettes.

Shortly after half past one dense volumes of smoke were seen to be pouring out of the windows and through the roof. The officials were communicated with, and the caretaker, on entering the building, which was filled with the fumes of gunpowder, found that a bomb had exploded in the first gallery on the south side of the building.

The remains of the bomb were found under one of the seats. It had consisted of a canister of gunpowder, with a long, slow-burning fuse attached. Some yards away from the scene of the explosion was found a charred card bearing the following words: "Put your religion into practice, and see that women obtain their freedom."

PILLAR-BOX FIRES IN YORKSHIRE TOWNS.

BRADFORD, YORK, SCARBOROUGH AND ROTHERHAM.

WIDESPREAD DAMAGE.

On Thursday night, May 7, widespread attacks were made on the pillar-boxes of the neighbouring towns of Bradford, York, Scarborough, and Rotherham.

At York, pillar-boxes in the Mount and Heyworth districts and in Bishopthorpe Road, were fired.

When the postmen unlocked the boxes the phosphorus burst into flames, and it was only with difficulty they managed to save a portion of the letters. Some sand was promptly obtained, and in this way the fires were put out. It is impossible to say exactly how many letters and packets were damaged, but it is reported that there was a good collection.

WHERE IS CARSON'S SUMMONS?

THE GOVERNMENT'S ATTACK ON GENERAL FLORA DRUMMOND A D MRS. DACRE FOX.

Mrs. Dacre Fox was summoned last week to appear at Westminster Police Court on Thursday, May 14, at 2 p.m., to show cause why she should not be ordered to find sureties to keep the peace and to abstain from language calculated to bring about a violation of the law.

A summons on similar lines was served upon General Flora Drummond, but this document has disappeared under circumstances with which our readers are familiar.

SERVING THE SUMMONS ON MRS. DACRE FOX.

FARCICAL PROCEEDINGS.

A summons was served upon Mrs. Dacre Fox at Victoria Station on Wednesday of last week, as she was returning from a holiday.

No less than eight detectives were engaged in the farcical proceedings. These men were stationed at intervals along the platform, and as the train drew up and Mrs. Dacre Fox stepped out to greet her friends, she was hurriedly surrounded by plain-clothes men, one of whom served the summons upon her.

She was closely followed right along the platform, and a friend who remained behind was shadowed until he left the station.

Passengers travelling by the train and people waiting on the platform were much astonished by the extraordinary proceedings and the caution and evident anxiety displayed by the Scotland Yard men.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MR. KEIR HARDIE asked the Home Secretary why proceedings have been initiated against Mrs. Flora Drummond and Mrs. Dacre Fox, whilst no similar proceedings are contemplated against those Privy Counsellors, King's Counsel, and Army Officials who have been advocating violence in Ulster; and whether this is to be taken to mean that the advocacy of the enfranchisement of women is a greater offence against the State than is the fostering of armed rebellion against the State in Ulster?

MR. MCKENNA: The Hon. Member is under a complete misapprehension if he supposes that the advocacy of the enfranchisement of women is an offence at all. It is not the advocacy of enfranchisement, but the advocacy of arson and outrage which constitutes a criminal offence, and it is that which I am endeavouring to check and suppress when evidence is available on which legal proceedings can be taken.

MR. KEIR HARDIE: Is the advocacy of arson in England any more an offence against the law than the advocacy of armed rebellion in Ulster, and, if not, why is no action taken against the Ulster people while action is taken against these women?

MR. MCKENNA: I am unable to draw any parallel of criminality between the advocacy of arson and the advocacy of armed rebellion. The only thing that I am responsible for is the maintenance of law in this country.

MR. W. THORNE: Is it because you are afraid to tackle the other side?

THE CASE AGAINST MR. DREW.

CHARGE OF INCITEMENT MR. BODKIN ON MILITANCY.

At Bow Street on Wednesday morning, before Sir John Dickinson, Mr. Sidney Granville Drew, secretary and manager of the Victoria House Printing Company, Tudor Street, Blackfriars, was summoned for printing and publishing the SUFFRAGETTE, dated January 2 last, thereby soliciting, inciting, and endeavouring to persuade divers women to commit malicious damage to property.

Mr. Bodkin and Mr. Boyd supported the summons on behalf of the Director of Public Prosecutions. Mr. McCardie and Mr. J. C. Stollery defended.

Mr. Bodkin said that under one of the articles of the Newspaper Act, Mr. Drew was required to produce copies of the paper, with the name of the person who hired him to print it, written or printed upon them.

Mr. McCardie: Mr. Drew is only secretary and manager of a Limited Company, he makes no admission as to his being the printer within the Statute, or the printer at all, but he has copies of the paper to refer to, and as a matter of fact produces them.

Mr. Bodkin: I do not find at all that the paper bears the name of the person who hired him. There is an imprint that does not show the Victoria Press, Limited, has anything to do with the printing of the paper. Therefore it is not in compliance with the statute to begin with.

Incitement to Crime.

The defendant here is summoned for publishing matter which is an incitement to the commission of crime. The matter which is complained of is matter which advocates the adoption of militancy, and militancy, as advocated in this SUFFRAGETTE paper, the organ of the W.S.P.U., is a system, that by use of arson, by the use of explosives, the use of corrosive acids, by breaking windows, by destroying letter-boxes and letters, there shall be created a condition of things which shall first of all, coerce the Government of this country to introduce legislation, and coerce the public to acquiesce in it, which shall have the effect of giving votes to all women. I presume, those included who are guilty of the outrages, accounts of which fill the pages of this publication.

An Artistic Form of Incitement.

The methods by which such acts are advocated, by which persons are instigated to repeat such acts, are not, in the newspaper, the mere bald statement: "Go and burn this house, or that hayrick. Go and blow up this post office, or that water reservoir," but a much more artistic form of incitement and much more effective. That form is to praise the courage and the high-mindedness of the persons who commit the crimes, by overflowing with sympathy for them when they happen to have the bad fortune to be caught, denouncing the authorities who are seeking to maintain order.

Mr. Bodkin then read extracts from the issue of January 2 and from different numbers of the paper, going as far back as last August. He then said to the magistrate: "Well, Sir John, taken together, in view of the policy of this paper, the methods which it advocates, is there any doubt that this is a case in which the opinion of the jury should be taken as to whether this does not amount to clearly an incitement to commit similar deeds?"

The case was then adjourned, and at two o'clock it was decided that the next hearing should take place next Tuesday at 10.30.

LILIAN LENTON AGAIN FREE.

Sentenced for the First Time on May 8.

Released on May 12.

Miss Lilian Lenton was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment on May 8 at Leeds. Although she had been committed for trial several times previously, this is the first time that any sentence has been passed on her. In Court, in spite of the fact that she was weak and ill owing to over four days' hunger and thirst strike, she continued, with a courage that dominated all in Court, to address the jury during the whole of the case, thus rendering the legal proceedings inaudible.

On Tuesday afternoon she again won her way out of prison after nine days' hunger and thirst strike, once more showing the futility of cruelty and coercion in dealing with courage, devotion, and determination.

REMARKABLE SCENES AT LEEDS ASSIZES.

SENTENCE ON MISS LENTON.

"I SHALL NOT SERVE IT."

Remarkable scenes were witnessed at the Leeds Assizes on May 8, when Miss Lilian Lenton, who appeared to answer a charge of attempted arson at Doncaster on June 3, 1913, was sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment. Throughout the trial Miss Lenton, in spite of the fact that she was obviously weak and ill, kept up a continuous address to the jury, which practically drowned the hearing of the case.

As soon as Miss Lenton entered the dock she announced her intention of not allowing the case to proceed. Then turning at once to the jury, she said, "I want to ask you to refuse to have anything further to do with this case. Not for my sake, but for the sake of your own honour."

"You Don't Realise the Injustice of It."

She then spoke of the injustice of men trying women after men had made the laws, saying: "You have become so used to it that you don't realise the injustice of it."

Her speech was going on all the time Mr. C. F. Lowenthal, who prosecuted, was opening the case, until the judge remarked, "Miss Lenton, listen to me. Don't you think you have made enough protest?"

Miss Lenton: No, I shan't stop protesting as long as this Court sits.

Mr. Lowenthal stated that the action of the prisoner might very well have resulted in the death of a lady of 72, Mrs. Mary Temple Beecroft, the housekeeper, who went down the stairs in the early hours and surprised the pair.

Miss Lenton: This is absolutely ridiculous, because we always look first to see if anyone is there.

Mrs. Beecroft then gave evidence.

Proceedings Ignored.

The Judge: Miss Lenton, do you wish to ask this witness any question?

Miss Lenton: No, I don't wish to take any notice of the proceedings at all. I am simply making a statement on my own.

There was no abatement of the defendant's speech during the judge's summing up, after which the jury, having consulted together for a few

moments, returned a verdict of guilty.

Miss Lenton then said, "I did not want the jury to find me not guilty, but to refuse to return any verdict at all."

His Lordship then remarked that the other prisoner with whom Miss Lenton had been originally charged had been sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment, and he asked her if she had anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon her.

"I Refuse to Obey the Law."

Miss Lenton replied that she had already said a great deal as to why the court should not give judgment, simply because as a woman she had had no hand in making the laws. All she had done was to refuse to obey the laws made by man, and she should continue to refuse to obey them. "No man who was anything but a cad can possibly pass judgment on a woman who is charged with breaking laws she has had no hand in making."

The judge's final remarks on the seriousness of the charge were cut short by the defendant observing, "I don't want to hear anything you have to say."

She was then sentenced to 12 months' imprisonment in the second division, remarking as she was taken from the court, "I shall not serve it. I shall starve first."

"A Gross Injustice."

Then followed a regular pandemonium in the ladies' gallery. Several women rose to their feet at the same time, one nearest the judge crying in a loud voice: "My lord and fellow members, this is a gross injustice. You have no right to sentence this woman. She is not fit to be sentenced. How can you, sir, as the judge, allow this sort of thing? I do not know how you can sit on that bench." She was then seized by police officers and ejected, but her protest was taken up by others.

LONDON MEETINGS.

The meeting at the Knightsbridge Hall on Monday, May 18, at 3.15 p.m., will be addressed by Mrs. Dacre Fox and Miss K. Margesson. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Mansel.

These meetings are for women only. The meeting on Thursday, April 21, at 8 p.m., will be held at the Elysée Galleries, Queen's Road, Bayswater. The speaker at the meeting will be Miss P. Rickards. The chair will be taken by Miss Dorothy Gordon.

Men will be admitted to this meeting by ticket only.

Paper Sellers for the Deputation.

It is most important that the SUFFRAGETTE should figure prominently at the King's deputation, and names of those who are able to paper-sell should be sent in at once. An appeal is also made for more paper-sellers for the regular pitches, and volunteers are asked to come forward for regular selling during the summer months. All names in either of these connections should be sent to Miss Kennedy, Lincoln's Inn House.

Important New Pamphlet

The attention of readers is drawn to the important new pamphlet, entitled "What Forcible Feeding Means," by Frank Moxon, M.B., B.S., which is now on sale at the Woman's Press. Members will realise that the widest publicity should be given to this pamphlet, and they are urged to make a special effort to circulate it.

THE SCANDAL AT IPSWICH.

Star Chamber Methods.

WHAT WILL THE ELECTORS SAY?

The by-election caused in Ipswich by the death of Rev. C. Silvester Horne will doubtless go down to posterity as the Forcible Feeding By-election, for at the same time as the different political parties are contending for the seat, two unknown women, who have been arrested on the suspicion of being concerned in the destruction of the Bath Hotel, Felixstowe, are undergoing this torture in Ipswich gaol.

Great feeling has been aroused by the iniquitous treatment of these two women. It is reported that a magistrate visited them in prison last Friday and remanded them until May 15.

The W.S.P.U., which was already carrying on a rousing campaign to protest against this savage injustice, welcomed the by-election as giving the electors of Ipswich an opportunity of striking a blow at the Government's cruel methods. The by-election is really a test case on forcible feeding, and it is up to the electors to prove that justice and humanity still mean something to the men of England.

THE FORCIBLE FEEDING BY-ELECTION.

GREAT CAMPAIGN IN IPSWICH.

POLLING DAY, MAY 27.

Result in December, 1910.

Sir D. F. Goddard (L) ...	5,931
Rev. C. Silvester Horne (L) ...	5,791
B. H. Burton (U.) ...	5,447
A. C. Churchman (U.) ...	5,409

Liberal Majority 344

W.S.P.U. organiser, Miss Phyllis Ayrton, Committee Rooms, Tower Street, Ipswich

The campaign which the W.S.P.U. is carrying on in Ipswich has aroused a keen feeling of interest in the town, together with indignation at the way women are treated by the Government.

It is impossible to go anywhere without hearing animated conversations on the subject. The "Forcible Feeding" posters which are shown on the hoardings are causing particular comment, and much sympathy is being expressed for the women who have to undergo this horrible torture. One woman was heard to exclaim, after standing in silence for some time before one of these posters: "How terrible it is. I had no idea forcible feeding was like that!"

The two unknown women in Ipswich Gaol have been remanded for another week, a magistrate having visited them in prison, and this means that they will continue to be tortured during this time. Great efforts are therefore being made to rouse public feeling on this point. A strongly worded letter of protest has been sent round to all the prominent residents in the district, and a canvass of doctors and clergy has been started.

Polling day has been fixed provisionally for May 27, and it is hoped that all members who can possibly offer help will come forward at once and do their share in bringing this momentous by-election to a successful issue.

Help of every kind will be welcome, and Miss Ayrton appeals for speakers, canvassers, bill distribu-

tors, chalkers, and paper sellers to come forward and help in this very important campaign.

A campaign fund has been started to cover the election expenses, and it is hoped that everyone who cannot give personal help will contribute to this fund. The following sums are gratefully acknowledged: Miss L. Roe, £5; Anon, £5; Mrs. Douglas-Reid, £5; Miss Sykes, 10s.; Miss Brett, 10s.; A Member, 6s.; Anon, 5s.; Miss Byford, 4s.; A Keen Member, 2s. 6d.

THE BISHOP OF IPSWICH INTERVIEWED.

PROMISE TO VISIT THE PRISONERS.

On May 11 the newly created Bishop of Ipswich held a reception at the Town Hall. After the reception Mrs. Armstrong and Miss Hartley called at Canon Pigot's, where the Bishop was staying, to interview him.

He seemed very favourably disposed and listened with interest to Mrs. Armstrong. He said that he thought forcible feeding awful, and was particularly shocked when he heard that it was being practised on two unconvicted women. At Mrs. Armstrong's request he promised to go and personally visit the prisoners, but he would not undertake to see the process of forcible feeding, though agreeing that it was impossible to rely on what the prison officials said. The Bishop admitted that he had a perfect right to order prayers to be said by the clergy on this subject, but he would not commit himself to anything.

ROUSING THE PUBLIC.

DISGRACEFUL BEHAVIOUR OF CHURCH OFFICIALS.

Many protests have been made in the town to bring this scandal to the theatres and churches in the town to bring this scandal to the notice of the public.

On Sunday protests were made in two places of worship. At Tacket Street Chapel, after the minister had finished one of the prayers, a woman arose and having prayed aloud, walked quietly out of the building. No attempt was made to turn her out, but when, later on in the service, some more women rose and prayed for help for the women suffering in prison, men rushed at them and forced them down the gallery stairs and out into the street.

At St. Margaret's Church, when three women prayed aloud, a sidesman who was sitting near them sprang at them and started pulling them very roughly out of the pew. Others joined him, and soon by their action the men had created a perfect pandemonium round the women.

Later another woman rose, and as her protest rang out down the church the sidesmen were upon her like a pack of wolves. Blinded with rage, they could not see at first where they were going, and this way and that they pulled her, until they had got her out of the pew. They tore down the nave with her, half-suffocating her with a hand across her mouth, and did not stop until they had thrust her out of the gates.

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