

VOTES FOR WOMEN

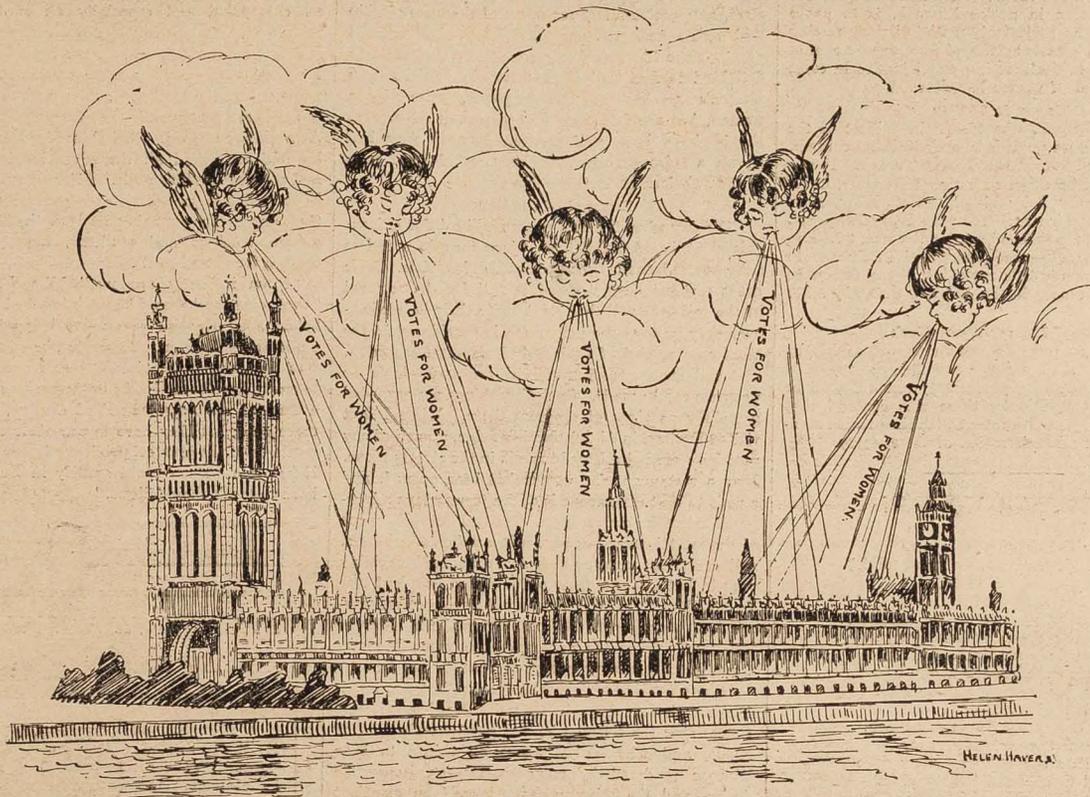
EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE

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THE EASTER RECESS



A SUGGESTION FOR THE VENTILATION OF THE HOUSE

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DEDICATION

To the brave women who to-day are fighting for freedom: to the noble women who all down the ages kept the flag flying and looked forward to this day without seeing it: to all women all over the world, of whatever race, or creed, or calling, whether they be with us or against us in this fight, we dedicate this paper.

THE OUTLOOK

The important news reaches us as we go to press that the vote in the United States Senate was 35 to 34 in favour of the woman suffrage amendment, instead of 35 to 34 against, as wrongly reported in all the English papers. It was, therefore, only owing to the necessity for a two-thirds majority that the motion was regarded as lost.

In this Country

Many members of the Liberal Party are keenly anxious that the same desire for conciliation which is shown by their leaders on the Irish issue should be exhibited with regard to the question of woman

suffrage, the treatment of which is not only a national scandal, but (what is more important from a party point of view) is gradually breaking up the Liberal Party. The *Nation*, in a note in last week's issue, remarks:—

We are glad to see that Sir John Simon is working to put woman suffrage into its proper place on the Liberal programme. He told the Manchester Reform Club on Saturday that the question could not indefinitely take a back seat, and that militancy could make no difference to Liberal faith in it any more than Irish violence was allowed to obstruct Home Rule. He admitted the Prime Minister's hostility, but pleaded that Mr. Asquith had done his best to give the fullest opportunity of raising this question. This ought to mean, we think, that the Prime Minister will make woman suffrage a Government policy as soon as the House of Commons gives him his mandate.

Unabated Opposition

We could afford to let Liberals put their own interpretation on the past behaviour of their leader if there were any real indication that he and they were prepared to make amends in the future; but the exact contrary is the case. Mr. Asquith has flagrantly allowed his promises to women to be broken without any attempt at offering a genuine substitute. There is no talk of the Government introducing woman suffrage into the election of the Irish legislature as one of the reforms to be brought forward on the "suggestion stage" of the Home Rule Bill; there is no proposal for redeeming Mr. Asquith's broken promises with regard to woman suffrage for the United Kingdom. It is not surprising, therefore, that women are in revolt, and that Liberals are beginning to fear for the future of their party.

The "Daily News" on Tax Resistance

At the same time, the *Daily News* is establishing,

by inference, the right of women who have no votes, and are therefore shut out of the constitution, to refuse to pay taxes, and to carry out, at any rate, the more passive forms of militancy. In its leading article of Saturday last, speaking of the Irish situation, it says:—

The conscience of the civilian citizen under a Constitution such as ours does not express itself by refusing to pay taxes; the conscience of an officer does not express itself by refusing to obey orders. The conscience of both expresses itself by the vote when the occasion which is secured to them comes. Our constitution is so designed as precisely to eliminate those intolerable strains on the soldier's conscience which make up Unionist dialectic in this matter.

But our Constitution is clearly not so designed as to eliminate the strain imposed upon women, for as the *Daily News* elsewhere in the same article is careful to explain, the electorate now embraces practically the whole manhood of the country.

The Lawlessness of the Government

On Saturday last the W.S.P.U. endeavoured to hold a meeting in Hyde Park alongside the demonstration of the Unionists; the Government, continuing the policy which they have adopted for the last twelve months, prohibited it, and when Mrs. Drummond and Miss Rogers persisted, had them arrested, and subsequently imprisoned. As a paper entirely independent of the W.S.P.U., we raise our protest once more against this unlawful action of the Government in prohibiting perfectly peaceful meetings of women in Hyde Park. We know, of course, that the W.S.P.U. is a body which countenances unlawful and even revolutionary actions by some of its members, but this fact does not justify the Government

in preventing them from doing those actions that are within the law. For anyone, however much they may be opposed to the W.S.P.U., to take a different view of the situation is for them to connive at the unwarrantable encroachment by the Executive on the liberties of the people of the country.

A Scandalous Decision

As we go to press the news reaches us that the Privy Council have dismissed the appeal of Mr. Channing Arnold against his sentence of imprisonment. Our readers will remember that Mr. Arnold, the son of Sir Edwin Arnold, was editor of a Burmese newspaper. A white planter, a personal friend of a certain magistrate, had been charged with an offence against a native girl, and though the prima facie case against him appeared extraordinarily strong, the magistrate treated the planter with the utmost courtesy and dismissed the case. A large part of native Burmah was furious, and Mr. Arnold denounced what he considered the scandal. For this the magistrate prosecuted him for libel. He was sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, which was afterwards reduced to four. Mr. Arnold appealed, and Sir Robert Finlay supported the appeal. In our opinion, the result of the appeal, which will be learnt with consternation in native Burmah, is to prove once more that an exclusively male judiciary resting on an exclusively male system of government cannot be relied upon to deal out impartial justice in cases where the honour of women is concerned.

Women in Turkey

Miss Grace Ellison, who forms the subject of the interview which we publish in an adjoining column, is a woman well-known throughout Turkey. It was she who, in collaboration with Melek Hanoum, wrote the famous book, "A Turkish Woman's Impressions of Europe"; and her articles in the Daily Telegraph—shortly to be republished, under the title "Life in a Turkish Harem"—are considered in Turkey to have done more towards removing the obstacles to the freedom of women in that country than any other single agency.

Equal Pay for Equal Work

We publish, on page 427, an important article by Miss Baverstock on the present underpayment of women in the teaching profession, which should be studied most carefully by those who contend that women ought to be well content with the present man-made laws and administration of the country.

MOTHER TO SON

Before I knew the love of man The lovely dream of you began. When I said, "Jesus meek and mild," My Jesus was a little child, I nursed the kitten on my knee And nursed you where no eye could see. When I grew up to woman's grace I saw you in your father's face; Your hands were beating at my breast, And gave my womanhood no rest. Your little soul called each to each, And laid bright heaven in our reach. My body fed your body, son, But birth's a swift thing swiftly done Compared to one and twenty years Of feeding you with spirit's tears. I made your body with my blood, Your body's ample gratitude. I could not make your mind and soul, But my glad hands have kept you whole, And tears have kept God's pastures green, And washed His temple sweet and clean. Think you that I have lived in vain These years of wonder, joy and pain? The years when Jesus meek and mild Was my beloved little child! And when the first shy touch of things Waked in my heart a thousand Springs, And hid me open childhood's gate To give my woman's hand to fate! The moment when your groping hands Bound me to life with ruthless bands, When all my living became a prayer, And all my days built up a stair For your young feet that trod behind That you an aspiring way should find! Think you that life can give you pain Which does not stab in me again? Think you that life can give you pleasure Which is not my undying treasure? Think you that life can give you shame Which does not make my pride go lame? And you can do no evil thing Which sears not me with poisoned sting. Because of all that I have done Remember me in life, O son! Keep that proud body fine and fair, My love is monumented there! For my love make no woman weep, For my love make no woman cheap, And see you give no woman scorn, For that dark night when you were born.

Beloved, all my years belong To you; go, thread them for a song. Irene M'Leod.

THE TURKISH WOMAN'S AWAKENING

Interview with Miss Grace Ellison

Miss Grace Ellison, the London writer who has had better opportunities than any other European of studying the life of the Turkish women in the harem, and at the same time of discussing with leading public men the prospects of her emancipation, and whose fascinating letters, written from a Turkish harem, created so much interest when published in the Daily Telegraph a few weeks ago, belongs herself to the most progressive body of English feminists. She has told a representative of VOTES FOR WOMEN something of the women's movement in Turkey to-day.

Harem life as she saw it in a five months' visit to a noble Turkish lady was altogether different from Western imaginings, and she had difficulty in finding a single home where there were two wives, so little is polygamy practised to-day. She discovered a feeling of deep sympathy between women irrespective of class, and quotes many instances of the comradeship that exists among them. Conditions had altered greatly since her visit five years earlier, and she was delighted to find that Constantinople had its own woman's weekly illustrated paper, edited by a woman, but she felt that the progress of the women should have been still greater—that if they had shown a more daring spirit, they would have gone very much farther in those five years.

Removal of the Veil

"The day when Turkish women will ask for enfranchisement," said Miss Ellison, "is so far off that it does not yet come into the dream of Turkish feminists. Their great revolutionary demand is still for the removal of the veil—the veil that must cover their hair whenever they go out—the veil which is considered in the West as a symbol of their inferiority and seclusion. The veil must go; of that they are assured, or no progress can be made. Such tiny things are regarded gratefully as signs of progress there. When I first visited Turkey, in Abdul Hamid's reign, women of any position were not allowed to walk in the streets alone. Now a restaurant for women has been opened, and a visit to that restaurant is still a tremendous adventure for the Turkish woman. The Old Seraglio is one of the most interesting places in all Constantinople, and such Europeans as obtain permission invariably visit it, but I found that no Turkish woman had ever been within its gates. They could have received permission now, said Djémal Pasha, the Marine Minister, who is the patron of the women's movement, but it has not occurred to them to ask for it.

"One must live with them to realise how the manifold restrictions have hampered their development. I remember the friend who was passionately fond of music, and who longed above all things to hear Wagner rendered by an orchestra—an impossible desire—and the other woman, herself an excellent pianist, who said wistfully that she felt she could not progress any further without hearing first-class musicians—she could only imagine, and she wanted to hear. I hope her wish has been gratified now, for quite recently the first concert for women has been given in Constantinople.

"It is impossible for things to remain as they are. The country is faced with an economic crisis, drained of its wealth—I do not suppose there is in Turkey now one man whom we should consider wealthy—the days of extravagance and luxury, the days of vast expenditure on the harem are gone, and the women, with the men, must face the altered world.

Women's Help Wanted

"An enormous wave of patriotism is sweeping over the country, the desperate patriotism of a country, humiliated, beaten to the ground, racked during its five years of struggle for freedom with ten wars, external or internecine. One marvels at the vitality of the nation which not only hopes but determines to rise again, to work out its own regeneration, and one sympathises with the devotion the men and women show. France drapes the statue of lost Alsace with crape, and in the Turkish military schools the map of Turkey has the Lost Provinces draped with black. The feeling is poignant, but in their distress the leaders of Turkey are far-sighted, and they see that they cannot raise their country without the help of their women. At the feminist meeting I attended there was almost a note of reproach in the speeches of the men to the women whose seclusion and enforced inertia had been at the foundation of the old nation's life. 'You must come and help us,' the men said. 'We cannot do all the work ourselves.'

"And now, with a quickened sense of the importance of women to any community, wise men are searching the Koran, realising how during the centuries the false interpretation of the Prophet's teaching has degraded the women whom he held in honour. They see that a mass of prejudice, religious and thence social, has accumulated to crush women down, and they are trying to destroy it. But the women will find it very hard, with all the help that men like Djémal Pasha and his colleagues will give them, to overcome the conventions and traditions which are almost worse than the religious misconceptions. The women of the older generation, bitter, terrified, and suspicious, will do all in their power to hold them back.

The Hope of the Women

"The hope of the women, and the hope of the whole nation, is in education. In Abdul Hamid's reign, all enterprise, and especially all educational development, was killed by the overhanging terror. It is only now that the schools are becoming vitalised. I visited a great many State schools in Constantinople, where the Moslem teachers wore the hated veil, but where nearly all the women teachers were Armenian or Greek Christians or Israelites—they have hitherto had all the educational advantages, and secured the best posts. Fifty new schools are to be opened this year, and, as is generally known, the Government has just thrown open the University to women teachers and students, arranging special courses for their benefit.

"I am intensely anxious," Miss Ellison added, "that some fund should be established—I wish it could be done by English women—to bring Turkish girl students to London. Hitherto the girls who have won Government scholarships and come to Europe to study have been Greeks or Armenians. There was a Turkish student at Bedford College, there is one there now; but they have to pay their own way. It would be of the greatest possible advantage to Turkey if her own women could qualify in Europe and go back to teach their fellows." E. L.

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FIRST PRINCIPLES

By Mrs. Pethick Lawrence

(A Recent Speech at Birkdale, as reported in the "Southport Guardian.")

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence said she wished at the outset to remove one or two misconceptions that still remained in the minds of a few people. She supposed there were in the great gathering a few people who still held the antiquated idea that the votes for women agitation was a sort of movement against men. First of all they should put such a ridiculous idea out of their minds altogether. They must not think of the movement as a women's movement at all. It was really, essentially, and fundamentally, a great movement for human liberty. (Applause.) There was no idea of sex in the word liberty. The whole history of the race was the history of successive stages in the granting of human liberty.

Coping-stone of the Constitution

One hundred years ago four great classes of the community were shut outside altogether from the body politic, having no voice whatever in the legislation they had to obey. There were the whole working classes shut out by reason of class, all the Jews of the country excluded by reason of race, the Roman Catholics in Ireland and elsewhere by reason of their religious faith, and then there were the women excluded by reason of their sex. The barriers of class, race, and religious faith had gone, and now they had to carry the barrier against sex, and so put the coping-stone upon the great edifice of our free constitution.

Proceeding, the speaker said that some might think that they were anti-Liberal, or that they had some bias against the Liberal Party. They must remember that about 99 per cent. of the speakers on these platforms had been brought up in the traditions and fed on the maxims of the Liberal Party. (Applause.) The matter with the Liberal Party was not its Liberalism; but its il-Liberalism.

Why Did Women Want the Vote?

Some people actually wanted to know why women wanted the vote. Why did men want the vote? Why did men fight for the vote? Because men knew that no section of the population could win attention to its wrongs, or redress of its grievances, if it had not some power in the making of legislation. Before working-men got the vote the trades unions were illegal, and the first trades unionists were transported to Botany Bay for illegal conspiracy. Women wanted the vote for exactly the same reason as men wanted it, and fought for it. (Applause.) They need not go very far to see how unjust laws were framed to-day when women had no power whatever to enforce consideration of their claims. Take the Insurance Act. It might be a fairly good Act for men, although of that she was not very sure, but she did think it was unjust for women. The speaker went on to say that working men and women supported their children and supported each other. There was no real difference in the value of the work of the man and of the woman. The man went out into the market to sell his labour, and the woman gave her labour direct to the home and family. It was labour, and they were equal. The fourpence a week the man paid for insurance was family money, and money the wife had saved.

The Widow's Position

Speaking of the terrible position in this country to-day of hundreds of thousands of widows with children to support, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence said that in New Zealand, where women had the vote, they had a national scheme of pensions for widows with young children, a special law not to pauperise them or to relieve them out of the rates. In England, where women had not got the vote, the widows and the children were deliberately struck out of a scheme that called itself a national insurance scheme. What they wanted, she said, was not only votes for women. She would be happy if she could see motherhood in this country, if she could see the sacredness of the home vindicated by some such national scheme of pensions for widows as they had in New Zealand and Australia, where women had votes. That was some little indication of the facts that lay behind the women's movement.

The Women's Demand

She was often asked, she proceeded, to explain exactly what they were demanding,

exactly what the women's suffrage movement stood for. All the suffrage organisations were absolutely united in what they wanted. They did not ask that the franchise laws should be changed. The men in their superior wisdom had decided what the franchise laws were to be, and far be it from them to presume to call upon them to change it. Some of them might believe that everybody ought to have the vote. If they wanted it, and thought they could get it, work for it. What they as women said was this: Whatever the men considered was good enough for them, whatever was the men's qualification for the franchise, that was good enough for the women. (Applause.) They were asking that the sex disability should be swept away. They wanted to vote just as men voted. If the men voted on the household qualification, so they wanted the women of the country to vote on the household qualification.

There was another little misconception. It was said that they wanted women who paid rates and taxes to have a vote, and, of course, it was said it meant that all the rich women would have the vote, and the poor would not come in and have a chance. Those who argued like that were denouncing things that they did not realise. It did not matter how much the householders paid. If a man paid a shilling a week and lived in a little room or garret, he was a householder; the rates and taxes were included in the rent, and he could claim a vote. And if a charwoman lived in that room or garret and paid that rent, she would be entitled to have a vote. It was nothing to do with class. The industrial classes enormously outnumbered the property-owning class. That was amongst men. And exactly the same proportion would hold when applied to women; the greater proportion of the women enfranchised would belong to the working classes. She referred to the censuses which had been taken in various towns, and said that it had always shown that 70 or 80 per cent. of the women were earning their own living and depending upon themselves for their support. (Applause.)

Some people would say, "Well, that is a very reasonable demand. I thought the suffragettes were very extreme people." "Now, my friend," said Mrs. Lawrence, "now you know how moderate and reasonable we are." (Laughter and applause.)

Convert the Country?

Mr. Lloyd George said that he could not meet their demand because they did not ask enough. He would like to enfranchise six or seven millions of women instead of the paltry one and a quarter millions that their demand implied, and because he could not do that he would not enfranchise any at all. (Laughter.) They were told that they had to go and convert the country. That was all stuff and nonsense. The country was absolutely converted to the idea that women who paid rates and taxes like men ought to have a vote like men. (Applause.) She had never met anyone who did not agree to that. There might be some in the West End London clubs, and they might have a few men corresponding to that class in Southport. (Laughter.) There were also a few politicians—not many. But the working men and the business men of the country, those who were engaged in the world's work, were convinced of the logic and justice of the demand. Did they ever meet any sensible man—(laughter)—any ordinary average sensible man or woman who did not say "Yes" to that proposition? She never had—never.

(Applause.) Could they point her to any reform which had had the same amount of public opinion behind it? ("No," and applause.) The country was converted. They had no need to convert the House of Commons to that reasonable proposition. Two-thirds of the Members of the House of Commons had pledged themselves in favour. What they needed to do was to break down the opposition of one or two men who were stopping the fulfilment of the will of the people. (Applause.)

When a Bill which embodied those principles was before Parliament, the House of Commons passed its second reading by a majority of 167, a far greater majority than the majority for the Home Rule Bill—(laughter)—or the Parliament Act, or any of those other measures! (Laughter.) But Mr. Asquith would not let it go any further; he dropped it. Mr. Lloyd George was a very astute politician, as everybody knew. He knew that there were only two ways of getting the Bill through the House of Commons, either by compromise, by a measure which was so moderate that it united every party in the House of Commons, as the Conciliation Bill did; or else by means of a Government measure. He decided compromise, and he refused to bring in a Government measure, so that, though calling himself a friend of woman's suffrage, he might manipulate things so as to let the movement fall between two stools. That was his plan. But what he had really done was that he had united the whole movement on another basis. Now all the fifty-three societies were pressing the Government for a measure, and they would take nothing more or take nothing less, and they wanted it now; now, at this very minute. (Applause.) They might be told, "Oh, yes, you may ask for it, and demand a Government measure, and say you want it now; but you are not going to get it." "Why not?" "Because Mr. Asquith has said so, and so long as he is Prime Minister you may whistle for your Government measure."

A Few Commas Altered

Mrs. Lawrence continued: Oh, indeed! It seems to me Mr. Asquith has said in other occasions things very strong, but he has had to go back on his word. (Applause.) How about the Home Rule Bill? That was to pass the House of Commons without the alteration of a comma. There have been a few commas altered lately, I'm thinking. (Laughter and applause.) There have been a few concessions made, and there will have to be more concessions made. (Loud applause.) Besides that, continued the speaker, they had got the precedent of history. There had been bigger men than Mr. Asquith who had said that they would never bring in Franchise Reform. But they had had to eat their words. There was the great Duke of Wellington, the man who conquered Napoleon, and he said things about a Bill to give emancipation to the Irish Catholics. And he said stronger things than Mr. Asquith had said. He said that rather than bring in such a Bill, or sanction a Bill being brought in, he would rather turn his back on public life for ever. Three months afterwards he was bringing in a Bill. (Laughter.) The Duke of Wellington brought that Bill in rather than face civil war.

How Militancy Came

People did not like civil war. Of course they did not. That was what Mr. Asquith and the Liberal Party were afraid of in Ulster. Civil war meant destruction and misery, and when the suffragettes followed the lead of O'Connell or Sir Edward Carson, and threatened destruction if the Government would not listen and receive them, they were very shocked. They said it was very dreadful. And so it was. Waste and war and destruction were horrible things, but sometimes they came upon a country because justice and right were refused. (Applause.) She had not come there that night to preach destruction of property, because she had come to preach an alternative. She said this: "When a Government refuses to listen to reason, as this Government has refused, when it had spurned constitutional agitation, as this Government had spurned it; when no other means are open, there are only two alternatives, destruction of property or the destruction of that reactionary Government." (Applause.) She asked the electors to-day: Did they hate militancy? Of course they did. They were meant to hate it. If they hated it, why not stop it? They could stop it. They could not stop it by denouncing militancy. In spite of everything they had tried it went on. They could not stop it by imprisoning militants or killing militants, but they could do it by using their votes and by making clear to the Government that if it did not do what was right and just, and in conformity with its own principles, it would not have a chance at the elections. (Applause.) They defeated the representatives of the Liberal Government in Bethnal Green and in Leith. "If we could defeat the representative of the Liberal Government at six by-elections in this issue (I wonder) we could have a Government measure brought in and passed into law this session," said the speaker, amid applause.

The Damaged Picture

Speaking of militancy that was deplored but condoned, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence remarked: You will see what I think of defacing a beautiful picture, the most beautifully painted picture of the body of a woman we possessed. Well, I deplore it. I think the woman who did the action deplored it as much as any of us. I think we all deplore it. What we deplore even more is that the bodies of women in this country should be defaced and starved, and that little children should be crippled and maimed as they are under our present administration. And you may ask what about desecrating places of worship. I say I deplore it. I think it is terrible. What I think more terrible is that the human body should be degraded and defaced as it is to-day where the white slave traffic is rampant—(applause)—and where children and young girls are shipped away like bales of goods to be sold to a life of shame.

Proceeding, she said that she did not ask them not to condemn militancy, because it did not matter two pence whether they condemned it or not, but she wanted them for their own sakes to understand the spirit that was behind militancy. People in the movement knew things people outside did not know, and realised things others could not realise. It was terrible that babies should be torn from the arms of their mothers to be brought up in the workhouse, and it was terrible that hundreds and thousands of women should be working from morning to night for a penny an hour, a mere pittance with which they found it impossible to keep a roof over the heads of their children. It was terrible that the bodies of little children should be assaulted and degraded with impunity almost, or, at any rate, with punishment which was not to be measured with the punishment given to somebody who stole a pair of boots or who forged a cheque. It was terrible that young girls should be forced to go out into the street to sell their bodies because they could not get bread to feed them, and it was a terrible thing that this nation should be eaten up with a disease that was the direct outcome of the different standard of morality that existed between men and women. That different standard was the outcome of their political and social inequality. Attention must be drawn to those things. There was arising in the womanhood of this country a great new consciousness which was making them alive to the fact that lives were being wasted and children ruined. How foolish Statesmen were! They ought to have realised that it was a new force like a great river flowing through the country bringing healing and health. How had they to deal with it? They had dammed up that river, blocked the stream. "If you stop evolution you get revolution," concluded Mrs. Pethick Lawrence. "There is no escape from it, it is always the way."

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

Those who wish to understand the connection between The Underpayment of Women and Woman Suffrage should read the pamphlet

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FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 1914.

WOMANLY INFLUENCE

To suffragists engaged in the serious attempt to wrest the enfranchisement of women from a recalcitrant Government, the existence of the "antis" has always provided entertainment and diversion. To those women, on the other hand, who are still undecided as to their views on woman suffrage, the case made out by its opponents is always worthy of attention. We make, therefore, no apology in directing both classes of our readers to the careful examination of the scheme recently put forward by Mrs. Humphry Ward for safeguarding the interests of women.

Mrs. Ward, as well as being an anti-suffragist was at one time a member of the National Union of Women Workers—a body of some 7,500 women engaged in social service all over the country. Appointed by this Union—and therefore to that extent representative—are various committees of women who for several years past have conferred from time to time with M.P.'s upon measures relating to industry, the social evil, education, public service, and other legislative proposals, so far as they affect women and children. For many years

past a large number of the members of the Union have realised that these committees failed to achieve much that was urgently needed, partly, no doubt, because the Union itself was not really representative of the women of the country as a whole, and partly because the Union had no power to enforce any of its most ardent requests. Two years ago, therefore, the Union, by an overwhelming majority, at its annual meeting, passed a resolution in favour of woman suffrage. This entirely upset Mrs. Humphry Ward, who, after trying in vain to get the resolution rescinded by a later Conference, seceded, taking with her about 3 per cent. of the members of the Union to form a new society of her own. She has now adumbrated a new scheme of a "Joint Advisory Committee of Members of Parliament and Women Social Workers" to advise Parliament on all questions concerning women and children, with the exception of woman suffrage, which is specifically excluded from its discussion. Further, she has herself proceeded to nominate the women members of this advisory committee!

It will be seen in the first place that this wonderful scheme of Mrs. Humphry Ward is by no means original, it has not only been thought of before, but has been actually in operation for several years. The only difference is that whereas the Committees of the N.U.W.W. are at least representative of 7,500 women, the worthy ladies nominated by Mrs. Humphry Ward, in spite of their personal excellencies, represent no one but themselves.

Now, consider how this advisory body will work. It will wait for a Bill to be introduced into Parliament, it will then give it its august consideration; the women will offer, in secret, their advice, which the M.P.'s will be free to accept or decline. At last some compromise will perhaps be effected, and the Bill will proceed through Parliament, hall-marked with the approval of the Women's Advisory Committee, while all the time it may be bitterly resented by the great body of voiceless, voteless women throughout the country. On all the larger issues where women's interests are vitally concerned—the great questions of equal pay for equal work, of the exclusion of women from nearly all the best paid professions, of the unequal standard of morality enforced by law, to say nothing of such matters as tariff reform, international peace, and kindred matters which affect women every bit as much as men—the Committee will in all probability venture no opinion, or if it should express one will be promptly put in its place by the representatives of the men electors, who alone decide the policy of the country and make the nation's laws.

In order to understand the full meaning of this suggestion, it is necessary to transpose it. Suppose an amiable and worthy Tory Peer, with a bee in his bonnet on the subject of popular representation, were to propose the complete abolition of the House of Commons and of the House of Lords, and the substitution of a body of excellent and elderly gentlemen nominated by himself for the purpose of advising the King on the best laws to pass for the government of his subjects! Does anyone imagine that his proposition would delight the present electors, and that they would hasten to acquiesce in it? And yet this is the scheme which Mrs. Humphry Ward seriously puts before the grown and intelligent women of the country as a complete satisfaction of their demand for self-government.

Mrs. Humphry Ward, in spite of her many admirable qualities, is, we are afraid, sadly lacking in a sense of humour. Is it possible that she imagines that she is the sole adult specimen of the female of the human species, and that all the other women—like the curious little creature which we have been reading about lately in the papers—live and breed and die without ever coming to maturity at all? If so, it certainly seems a pity to undeceive her, for not only does she add to the gaiety of a rather drab world, but what is more important, she provides a fresh every morning new and incontrovertible reasons why women should secure by direct representation a share in the government of the country and a control in the making of the laws.

EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK

Some Facts about Teachers' Salaries—By K. Baverstock

Sir Robert Giffen, in speaking of the American Census, once said: "They pile up volume upon volume till it is a weariness even to look at the volumes." These words probably voice as well as any the sentiments of average folk, even those interested in social questions, in regard to Blue Books and statistics as a whole. And yet there are certain facts relating to women's work and women's employment presented in some of the Blue Books, White Papers, &c., which, if they could but be brought home to the consciousness and conscience of men and women, would plead insistently for reform. That some men and women have so grasped certain aspects of present social conditions accounts for the strength of the women's suffrage movement, the vitality of which is incomprehensible to those who are unable to discern the underlying forces below the surface of outward events.

The following are a few figures, chosen without prejudice, from White Papers, &c., which may be taken as characteristic of the state of affairs throughout the country:—

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS
Average Salaries, 1911-12

	Head Teachers.		Assistant Teachers.	
	Men.	Women.	Men.	Women.
England	£ 177.0	£ 123.9	£ 53.1	£ 32.5
London	285.3	204.8	80.5	158.6
Liverpool	248.2	144.0	104.2	133.3
Manchester	243.5	139.4	104.1	126.5
Dorsetshire	132.0	87.6	44.4	88.5
Lancashire	173.3	121.8	51.5	109.3
Oxfordshire	117.9	81.4	36.5	84.2

The average salary for uncertificated teachers was for the whole of England, £66.4 for men and £55.5 for women, and in London £83.4 for men and £61.7 for women.

L.C.C. SCALE OF SALARIES
In Secondary Schools

	Assistant Masters.		Assistant Mistresses.	
	Higher Scale—£150, annually to £300	Lower —£150, rising £25 annually to £230	£120, rising £10 annually to £220	£120, rising £6 annually to £160
Men	£150	£120	£120	£120
Women	£120	£100	£100	£100

The principle of "Equal pay for equal work" is one that has suffered much in its exposition at the hands of its friends. This is largely due to the unfortunate wording of the phrase, for we live in an interesting world where variety and not equality is the order of the day. Hence, when one strives to apply the principle of equal pay for equal work to any particular case, it is usually not difficult to show that in some respect or other an exact comparison does not hold good. The point that remains indisputable is that the standard of remuneration is lower in women's occupations than in men's, and that almost invariably women are paid less than men for work of equal difficulty and productivity.

Very emphatically is this the case in the teaching profession. It is allowed on all sides that the women teachers do their work as well as the men, and there are not a few who state that they do it better. The anti-suffrage folk outvie the suffragists in avowing the superiority of women over men in dealing with children, and yet the women are paid less. Moreover, in the case of the uncertificated women teachers and many certificated assistants the salary is quite insufficient for the maintenance of an adequate standard of physical and mental efficiency. If a woman is to teach children, she needs enthusiasm, mental activity, and zest of life, which are hardly maintained without social intercourse and certain mental opportunities. These spiritual pleasures unfortunately entail the expenditure of material cash.

The position is well summarised in the words of Mr. R. F. Cholmeley in a presidential address to the Association of Assistant Masters in Secondary Schools (September, 1908):
"Whether the British public will ever be sufficiently educated to understand, at any rate, in its capacity as British parent, what the true cost of education is, may very well be doubted; it is still much a matter of chance whether a schoolmaster, however high his qualifications, obtains a salary sufficient to enable him to live in anything better than a kind of genteel poverty; and the remuneration offered to mistresses appears to be still generally calculated upon a belief

that the desire of a woman to support herself in independence ought to be discouraged."

Here, then, we have a clear case of great injustice to women, and the policy is one that must eventually prove disastrous to men, since in teaching, as in every other occupation, if women are paid less than men for the same work, they will ultimately be found to undersell and replace men in certain branches. The question is how matters can be remedied. One must admit that the causes of inequality of wages are various and complex. Women have suffered much as the result of the Industrial Revolution, and custom has countenanced a lower standard of living for women than men, and the payment of a lesser wage, not only in cases where there is no disability as regards work, but even when the work is superior.

Improvement may be hoped for along the following lines:—
1. The raising of the status of women and the removal of prejudice (which may involve the alteration of existing legislation), whereby women are excluded from certain professions or branches of work in which they would be effective. This arbitrary restriction makes the pressure of competition in those branches of work, in which women are recognised as doing good work, unduly severe.

2. Bringing pressure to bear, especially on public bodies, in regard to all the salaries and wages paid by them to women.

3. Combination amongst women themselves for purposes of collective bargaining and raising the standard of efficiency. The way in which women are handicapped in Unions without the vote is exemplified in the case of the National Union of Teachers. One of the objects of this Union is "to secure the effective representation of educational interests in Parliament." This representation is carried out by means of the local associations of the Union, each of which elects two Parliamentary representatives, one a Liberal, the other a Conservative, but both must be voters. The Union realises that non-voters have no influence with Members of Parliament.

For all these purposes, therefore, the vote is needed, and it is noteworthy that in certain places where women have the vote, equal pay for men and women has become the rule in the teaching profession. In this country much of the apathy towards the question of women's suffrage comes from members of the leisured class, who are utterly ignorant of the conditions governing women's work and women's payment, or from those whom the conditions of life are so hard that they cannot even realise the possibility of better things.

THE NEW DRESS

By G. Colmore

"I never did!" said the housemaid.

"No more didn't I," the parlourmaid agreed.

It really was a lovely dress. The box alone, in which it had been delivered, of a deep rose pink, with "Madame Epatante" written crosswise from corner to corner in flowing white letters, was enough to make the mouth of any sartorially disposed person water, and sheet after sheet of tissue paper, folded here, tucked in there, testified to the care of which the dressmaker's assistants considered the garment worthy. It was an indoor afternoon frock, verging towards the tea-gown, of thin semi-transparent materials combined in a harmony whose prevailing tone was blue. Laura, who had said she never did, when the first layer of paper was removed, said it again when, freed from all encumbrance, the mistress's dress lay stretched upon the mistress's bed, adding, "I always did have a fancy for blue."

"It's your colour," said Parkins, eyeing her critically. "You're fair, like *she* is. Now pink's my shade, or a crimsony red. Well, I must hurry."

Parkins bustled out of the room. Laura lingered beside the beautiful blue dress, touching it here and there, feeling its softness, glancing from the loveliness of its colouring to the reflection of her own face which she could see in the long mirror on the further side of the bed.

The two did go well together—her own colouring and that of the dress. If—To possess such a dress did not come within the bounds of hope; even to wear such a thing was outside possibility; but—
if—She looked again from the reflection of the gown to the reflection of her face. If—just to try it on—to see—She was much the same height as her mistress, much the same build, quite the same colouring. That mistress was out at lunch—would not be home—not for a good half hour yet—and Parkins was busy downstairs. Just for once, for five minutes, just to see—

It fitted her as if it had been made for her, and oh, how nice she did look to be sure! The soft chiffony material clung to her in deftly draped folds; she looked as slim as a broom-handle, and as pretty as—as her mistress herself.

She did not see that mistress standing in the doorway of the dressing-room; she was absorbed in contemplation of herself and in the pleasure of wearing a perfectly achieved "creation"; absorbed till a rattling at the front door and the sound of men's voices in the hall recalled her to the hazards of the situation. Then, turning, she met her mistress's eyes.

"Oh, ma'am—I didn't—I only—"
"It fits you beautifully," said the mistress, "as if—" a sort of light came into her face—"as if it belonged to you."

The housemaid, fumbling with the fastenings, did not hear footsteps on the stairs. "I'll have it off," she said, half in tears, "in a jiffy."

"No, no, keep it on!"

In an instant the mistress had seized upon the housemaid's discarded garments, her dress, her cap, her apron, and had fled, out through the door that led to the bathroom.

The housemaid stood confused, confounded, all of a tremble, and thus was she discovered by an inspector and two police officers who entered the

room with martial bearing and a warrant for arrest. "Nicely trapped!" said the Inspector. "So you're out at lunch, are you?"

"Lord alive!" cried the housemaid, "whatever is the matter?"

"You're wanted. Don't pretend you don't know. Case of arson."

"Arson!" exclaimed the housemaid. "I thought his name was Carson. I do assure you, sir, I've had no hand in his carryings on. I'm—I'm a Home Ruler."

"None of your chaff," said the Inspector. "You know very well the law don't interfere with Carson, and you know very well what the law do interfere with. Now come along, Mrs. Rokeby, and come quietly."

"I ain't Mrs. Rokeby," said Laura. "I'm the housemaid."

"Likely story! Sort of dress to sweep the floors in, ain't it? Sort of bedroom housemaids always do get provided for them!"

"I—I was trying it on, I—I—I—Oh, I never did!" cried the housemaid.

"Trying it on, were you?" The Inspector looked round the room. "And where's your own clothes?" he asked in italics of mingled superiority and contempt. "No no, you suffragettes are full of dodges, but you can't take in me."

The end of it was that Laura, attired in one of her mistress's hats, with a long coat she had often admired covering the new dress, was led downstairs and through the hall. Just within the bathroom door stood a housemaid, in black dress, white cap and apron, very neat and trim.

"Take warning by this," said one of the officers as he passed, "and don't you get taking up with any of your mistress's tricks!"

The housemaid appeared to be overcome with awe. Her only reply was, "Lor!"

She was thrust into a cell, was Laura, and there left in tears, in distress, in terrible confusion of mind and discomfort of body. It was tea time, she was sure it was, and nobody brought her any tea. They would all be sitting down, cosy and comfortable in the "room," and here was she, mistaken for a suffragette, and forced, against her will, into a hunger strike.

She had always been somewhat superior on the subject of suffragettes and their treatment; now, with fleas visibly hopping, and floor that could not have seen a brush.

Suddenly the door was flung open, and in came the proud inspector who had effected her capture, accompanied by another one, whose special business was suffragettes. He stopped short and looked, and frowned something fearful, and looked again, very closely, into her face. Then he stamped his foot.

"By George!" he said—or words to that effect; "it isn't her at all. You've been and made a muddle of it, and now she'll be off, she'll be—"

He turned upon the capturer with words beginning with d and b and other vituperative consonants, and Laura, feeling that she never, never, never did, was loosed from imprisonment.

When she got home there was no mistress, only a letter, addressed to Laura.

"Dear Laura," it ran, "I knew they would let you out soon. So sorry you had to be frightened. Keep the dress. You've paid for it."

THE REVOLUTIONARIES

More Incendiarism—Forcible Feeding Still Being Perpetrated—The Prime Minister's Guarded Journey North

The following incidents have been attributed to Suffragists in the Press during the week:

Thursday, April 2.—Attempt to fire Lisburn Castle, Ireland, little damage; Suffragists arrested.

Friday, April 3.—Attempt to blow up Belmont Church, Glasgow, slight damage; women's footprints discovered.

Attempt to fire a large mansion—Springhall, Rutherglen, near Glasgow. One arrested.

Sunday, April 5.—Explosion after evening service at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square; two windows broken and some pews destroyed. Suffragists suspected.

IN THE COURTS

Wednesday, April 1.—At the Edinburgh Police Court, before Bailie Richardson, on remand charged with causing a breach of the peace in St. Giles' Cathedral by chanting, "Onah Ni Ceallag," Miss Marion Downie, Miss Alex. Tur, Miss Emma Stanley, Miss Marjorie Macfarlane, Miss Janet Wallace, and Miss Caroline Brown. Judgment deferred.

Thursday, April 2.—At the Edinburgh Police Court, the above Suffragists ordered to be bound over in £5 for six months, or 10 days' imprisonment each. An appeal intimated and bail granted.

Saturday, April 4.—At a Special Court at Belfast, charged with having in their possession certain noxious things with intent to commit, or enable others to commit, felonies, and an explosive substance, Miss Dorothy Evans and Miss Mary Muir; remanded on bail till Wednesday.

Monday, April 6.—At the Marlborough Street Police Court, before Mr. Denman, charged with obstructing the police, Miss Margaret Rogers and Mrs. Drummond. Miss Rogers fined 20s. or 14 days' imprisonment; fine not paid. Mrs. Drummond remanded till Wednesday.

At Glasgow, before Sheriff Effe, charged with attempting to fire Springhall, a large house at Rutherglen, Glasgow, Miss Frances Gordon, remanded in custody.

At the Marlborough Street Police Court, before Mr. Denman, charged with obstruction in Court during Mrs. Drummond's case, an anonymous woman, bound over; charged with assaulting a policeman, Mr. Mitchener, fined 10s.

EXPLOSION IN A CHURCH

Supposed Bomb in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields

An explosion, which has been attributed to Suffragists, took place at about 10.30 on Sunday night in St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, which broke two windows and damaged several pews. The explosion was heard by a policeman, who ran to the church house for the keys, and on entering the church found it full of smoke. On examination a canister, which had apparently contained gunpowder, was discovered beneath one of the damaged pews.

St. Martin's had been closed as usual after evening services, and so far it seems that suspicion has fallen on no one, although the *Daily Chronicle* speaks of "a well-dressed young woman," and the *Daily News* also speaks of "a woman" who was noticed as a stranger at the evening service.

WHY WE PAY SCOTLAND YARD

The *Daily Herald*, commenting on the special department of Scotland Yard whose energies are concentrated on watching the militant Suffragists, says:—

"It is, therefore, interesting to note that there are at least four murders which still remain mysteries, besides a huge number of burglaries and other crimes. We, in our innocence, thought detectives were employed for catching criminals, but we were mistaken. They are for the purpose of carrying out the suppression of political agitation to which the Government is opposed. This work is easier, less dangerous, and requires no brains. Hence there is no difficulty nowadays to get recruits for the C.I.D."

TALKING SENSE AT LAST!

"If the show places are closed," says *Cotton's Weekly*, writing of the panic in the galleries on account of the Suffragette campaign of violence, "the tourists will go elsewhere." It then adds, with a sense and simplicity for which we look in vain on this side of the Atlantic:

"If the authorities and hotel-keepers want the pictures to be openly safe, why not grant women the vote?"

A PROVERB FOR MR. MCKENNA

"A vote in time saves crime."
—Judge.

FORCIBLE FEEDING

Miss Mary Richardson Released

As we went to press on Tuesday afternoon we learnt that Miss Mary Richardson was released on licence for six weeks in order to undergo an operation for appendicitis. Our readers will remember that on her recent committal to prison the Home Office was warned by her medical attendants that if forcible feeding were persisted in there would be grave danger of appendicitis. The authorities persisted until the serious condition of their victim made immediate release essential if her life was to be saved.

Miss Kitty Marion

Miss Kitty Marion is still being forcibly fed in Holloway Gaol.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE

Last Friday, on behalf of Mr. Keir Hardie, Mr. S. Walsh asked the Home Secretary whether Mary Richardson, a Suffragist prisoner, was now being forcibly fed; whether her doctor certified on her last release from prison after being forcibly fed that she was suffering from appendicitis; and that a renewal of forcible feeding might again set up the mischief and jeopardize her life in a few hours; and whether copies of this certificate had been received by him and by the prison authorities.

Mr. McKenna: The answer to the first question is in the affirmative. Mary Richardson's medical attendant wrote to me in December last to the effect that she had warned her patient that to repeat her refusal of food and water in prison and to be subjected to forcible feeding would entail grave risk, and she has repeated the same opinion in subsequent communications. Every care is taken by the medical officers of Holloway Prison to prevent the prisoner injuring herself; but it is their plain duty as medical men to feed her even at some risk of self-inflicted injury rather than to allow her to commit suicide by starvation.

Mr. Walsh: May I ask whether forcible feeding is going on at present?

Mr. McKenna: Yes, sir.

MR. ASQUITH'S JOURNEY NORTH

Suffragette Speeds His Parting

The papers have been full of Mr. Asquith's progress Northwards, but none so far as we know has commented on the indignity of a Prime Minister who goes to seek the suffrages of his constituents surrounded with detectives and attended with precautions formerly associated with our minds only with the journeys of Tsars.

In spite of precautions, however, Suffragettes came within shouting distance of the Premier at more than one point of his journey. Although only women with a special pass were allowed on the platform at King's Cross, one of these ticket-holders was a well-known militant Suffragette, who was only recognised and turned back by the police just in time. We should like to ask by what right, if she had a special pass, they turned her back? It would be much simpler to issue no tickets on these occasions, but to allow the police to settle who may or may not speed the parting Minister!

At York

At York an excellent plan was followed. No woman over ten was allowed on the platform, and the only representative of the voteless half of the nation was a very little girl who presented a very large bouquet to Mrs. Asquith. This idea seems to us capable of great development. Official receptions of the future might, for instance, be turned into juvenile parties, and the peace of mind of our Ministers would be assured.

At Newcastle

At Newcastle, as the Prime Minister's train was moving out of the station, a Suffragette suddenly evaded the police guard and sprang on to the footboard, tapped on the window of Mr. Asquith's carriage, and tried to present him with a typewritten document tied with ribbon in the militant colours. He, of course, successfully avoided doing the right thing as usual, and in the struggle that followed between the woman and the two policemen who tried to pull her away, the three of them fell heavily on the concrete platform, the woman being underneath.

The woman fell, but how much more dignified her position than that of the Liberal deputation at Berwick, who, owing to the precautions taken to save the Prime Minister from the slightest contact with voteless women, had to clamber along the line in order to address him because his carriage was far beyond the confines of the station!

At Cupar

On his return journey, last Sunday night, Mr. Asquith motored down to Cupar Station and walked through ranks of police to his train. Although the station

was surrounded with police, two Suffragettes managed to be walking up and down the opposite platform. They crossed the line with promptitude, and approached the Prime Minister, but were at once, of course, removed by numbers of detectives (who must, by the way, have been quite glad of a chance of justifying their existence by that time).

May we have a talk with you?" asked one of the women. The Prime Minister, says the *Daily Telegraph*, "only smiled, and watched with interest the removal of the women."

The other woman shouted: "You face us when we are held, but you would not do it if we were free! Why is Sir Edward Carson free while you send women to prison?"

It is possible to smile and smile and—

THE ROBEY VENUS

Art circles continue to seethe with indignation over the National Gallery outrage. Even the Post-Impressionists have now sympathy with the suffragettes, for they realise that, while in this instance it was only a Velasquez which was injured, next time it might be a sublime Bonberg or a transcendent Wyndham Lewis.—**Punch.**

PROGRESS ABROAD

UNITED STATES

The Congressional Amendment PASSED BY ONE VOTE

Contrary to the report circulated in the Press a fortnight ago, to the effect that the United States Senate had thrown out the Suffrage amendment, we now learn that the amendment was passed by 55 votes to 34. Only because a two-thirds majority is essential was the resolution to send it to the Referendum defeated. We comment on this in our Outlook this week.

A New Amendment Introduced

A new amendment to the Constitution, advocated by the National American Woman Suffrage Association, was introduced into the Senate on the following day, which was sent to the Committee on Woman Suffrage for consideration. This amendment, if passed, would substitute the initiative petition in all the States for the present method of passage through both Houses of the Legislature of the Suffrage amendment before its reference to the electors of the State.

Mr. Walsh: May I ask whether forcible feeding is going on at present?

Mr. McKenna: Yes, sir.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Hon. Hugh Wyndham's Bill

The Hon. Hugh Wyndham's Woman Suffrage Bill came up for its second reading on April 1 in the South African House of Assembly—not its third reading, which, according to a foreign telegram from which we quoted recently, was to be taken on that date. It is, in fact, doubtful if the Bill will pass its second reading this session, as the debate was adjourned, and General Botha, in the course of it, said he was in favour of the principle of the Bill, but urged that it should not be pressed "in view of the practical difficulties that would arise in its application to South Africa."

Ministers in this country used to talk like that during the second reading debates of Suffrage Bills, and the fact that they are finding out now that still more "practical difficulties" arise if Suffrage Bills are shelved indefinitely.

POLICEWOMEN IN ILLINOIS

Ju-jitsu is to be taught to Chicago policewomen, nine more of whom were appointed and sworn in on March 14. Ju-jitsu in itself offers an answer to the physical force argument, for it is as dependent on muscular weight and demands the particular finesse and skill that are to be found as often in women as in men.

EGYPT

We publish on another page an interesting account of the woman's movement in Turkey. In Egypt the same movement for the raising of woman's status is going on among the Moslem population, who are also realising, says the Cairo correspondent of the *Times*, that the future of the Moslem races depends upon the better education and emancipation of their women.

An agitation for the abolition of the vest and the London Sessions last month, a woman for obtaining various articles of clothing and two cheques for £20 each, from West End firms, under false pretences, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Lawrie to four years' penal servitude. (See *Times*, March 26.)

At the Central Criminal Court, on March 26, an American was charged with obtaining a cheque for £500 by false pretences from a woman. There was evidence that he was an international swindler. The Common Sergeant sentenced him to three years' penal servitude, and ordered the restitution of the money. (See *Times*, March 7.)

RUSSIA

The Russian Married Women's Property Act of which we gave some account a few weeks ago, has received the Imperial assent and will now become law.

This is a great step forward in the position of the married woman in Russia. Hitherto, she has been unable to hold property, enter business, seek employment or obtain a separate passport without her husband's consent. Legal separation was denied to her, and her only remedy against a bad husband was the expensive process of divorce, denied to all but the wealthier classes.

The new law has altered this to a considerable extent. With regard to the last point, the Holy Synod will not allow a legal status to be given to separation between man and wife, but will allow it to be recognised as a fact—a theologian's quibble! The law also provides that married women separated from their husbands shall enjoy full liberty of movement and enjoyment of property, even if they be minors. The Courts will have no power to order restitution of conjugal rights.

Cruelty to the children, rascality, violence, dishonesty, immorality, dangerous or loathsome illness will be sufficient cause for separation, and the husband in such cases will be compelled to provide alimony. The care of the children is to be awarded to the injured party.

COMPARISON OF PUNISHMENTS

LIGHT SENTENCES

Criminal Assault on a Girl

The *Sussex Daily News* (March 7) reports the case of a motor engineer charged, before Mr. Justice Bray, at Sussex Winter Assizes, with criminally assaulting a girl above 13 and under 16 years of age at Hove. The Judge, in passing sentence, said it was a very serious offence as he had seduced the girl when she was under 13, but as he was only convicted in regard to an offence when she was over 13, the sentence could not be one of penal servitude. Sentence: *Fifteen months' hard labour.*

HEAVY SENTENCES

Obtaining £14 by Fraud

The *Times* (March 4) reports case of a traveller charged at the Central Criminal Court, before the Recorder, with two cases of larceny by a trick, by which he obtained two sums of £5 and £9 under false pretences. Sentence: *Twenty months' hard labour.*

Murderous Attack on a Woman

The *Evening News* (March 17) reports case of a man charged, before Mr. Hedderwick, at the North London Court, with entering the room of a dying woman and, on being told that his wife was not there, of refusing to leave, and striking the sick woman's daughter on the nose savagely with a stick. The magistrate said: "You might have killed the woman with a bludgeon like that." Sentence: *Two months' hard labour.*

Attempt to Steal a Mail Bag

The *Times* (March 4) reports case of a labourer charged, at the Central Criminal Court, before the Recorder, with stealing a mail-bag containing between 500 and 600 letters in a train. The bag was recovered at the station and the prisoner arrested. Sentence: *Ten months' hard labour.*

Cruelty to a Horse

The *Daily News* (March 16) reports case of a milks-milkmaid, charged at Acton Police Court, before Mr. W. C. Jeffreys, with working a horse in an unfit state. In passing sentence, Mr. Jeffreys said this would have been doubled had not the prisoner consented to have the horse killed; and on being asked to make it a fine, the magistrate said: "Certainly not: it is an atrocious case." Sentence: *Fourteen days' imprisonment.*

Stealing One-third of a Pearl Tie-Pin

The *Daily Telegraph* (April 1) reports case of an engineer, charged at Marylebone Police Court, before Mr. Paul Taylor, with being concerned with two other men with handling and robbing Lieut. Col. Lyons of a pearl tie-pin, value £25, which had been recovered with the help of the prisoner's wife. The other men were not caught. Sentence: *Three months' hard labour.*

PROPERTY VERSUS PERSON

Our table of comparisons, this week, demonstrates as forcibly as ever the low value that is set upon the human person, especially of women and little girls, as against the high value set upon money and property generally. In order to avoid any semblance of exaggeration, we have chosen as examples of heavy sentences instances by no means as startling as are to be found almost daily in our newspapers.

Escaping Penal Servitude

Owing to a quibble, founded on conflicting evidence and the usual demand that evidence of this sort should be corroborative, the man charged in the first case given above escaped the more severe conviction and penalty, and for running a little girl, who was under 13 when he seduced her, was given a sentence of fifteen months' imprisonment instead of the penal servitude to which he would otherwise have been liable. We cannot help remarking on the great difficulty there always seems to be in dealing adequately with criminals of this class, who prey upon the childhood and girlhood of the nation, while men and women convicted of shoplifting, forgery, or obtaining money by fraud, are continually sentenced to penal servitude.

Here are three recent instances which could be multiplied by glancing at any of our morning papers for a day or two. At the London Sessions last month, a woman for obtaining various articles of clothing and two cheques for £20 each, from West End firms, under false pretences, was sentenced by Mr. Justice Lawrie to four years' penal servitude. (See *Times*, March 26.)

At the Central Criminal Court, on March 26, an American was charged with obtaining a cheque for £500 by false pretences from a woman. There was evidence that he was an international swindler. The Common Sergeant sentenced him to three years' penal servitude, and ordered the restitution of the money. (See *Times*, March 7.)

Before the Recorder of Dublin, on March 26, a man was charged with defrauding a firm of solicitors of a sum of £600, and sentenced to three years' penal servitude. (See *Times*, March 27.)

We do not in the least defend fraud or robbery or crime of any kind. But we do say that if it is both possible and usual to give sentences of penal servitude to those who commit this class of crime, it should not be both possible and usual for men who commit crimes of the kind that ruin little girls, physically and morally, at the outset of their lives, to escape penal servitude and get off with hard labour, and sometimes with second division treatment, or even with a fine.

THE CASE OF JULIA DECIES

It is announced that a petition is being prepared by Mr. Huntly Jenkins, Miss Julia Decies' counsel, for presentation to the Home Secretary, appealing for a reduction of her sentence. According to the *Daily Mail*, a public petition will probably be organised if this one fails.

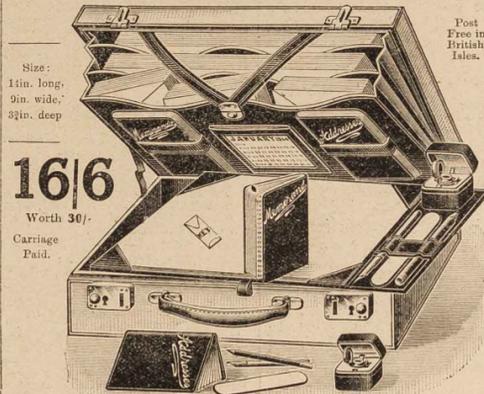
As stated in last week's *Votes for Women*, an application on her behalf for leave to appeal was refused by the Court of Criminal Appeal.

WOMAN ON A PEDESTAL

A defendant at Croydon Police Court, last Saturday, was stated to lie in bed and smoke tea-leaves because he was too lazy to go out and work to earn money to buy

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CORRESPONDENCE

A Hint to Liberal Electors
To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Dear Editors,—There are bound to be many Liberal electors who are disappointed with the unfair conduct of their great party to the important cause of Woman Suffrage, and who want to vote in a quiet way their conviction to their candidate at election time.

Dear Editors,—It is very regrettable that the proposal of Mrs. Humphry Ward for an advisory committee of picked women should have been brought forward at the present juncture.

THE ADVISORY COUNCIL

Dear Editors,—It is very regrettable that the proposal of Mrs. Humphry Ward for an advisory committee of picked women should have been brought forward at the present juncture.

MILITANT CHURCHWOMEN

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN. Dear Editors,—Owing to the Bishop of Winchester's remark, I have withdrawn from the Mothers' Union, so I am sending on the fee I should have paid to them, to you.

Dear Editors,—The letter signed "Beatrice Grenville" in one of your recent issues recalled to my mind one which I sent to the Daily Chronicle during its agitation concerning the women's "clergy," but which the editor did not see fit to insert.

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WOMEN IN PROFESSIONS

The Ban on Marriage
A good many opinions have been expressed on the discussion in the London County Council last week, renewed as we go to press early this week, as to whether women medical officers should conform to the present rule of the London County Council and resign their posts on marriage.

is an unwarrantable interference with women's liberty which would never be contemplated in the case of men, and that if the reason for this differentiation is the fear lest a married woman might neglect her official duties, the natural course to pursue is to wait until that happens and then dismiss her as inefficient, which is what happens to any other inefficient person, whether man or unmarried woman.

Manufacturing Rebels
But the interviewers of the Press are not out to get the Suffragist point of view, and most of the people interviewed have had to emphasize again and again the obvious truth that marriage would of course increase rather than decrease the usefulness of the medical officer who has to deal largely with married women and children.

The Ironic Answer
Miss Cicely Hamilton went straight to the point, and suggested that such women should rather have their salaries increased on marriage.

Dr. Marie C. Stopes
In an admirable letter to the Times last Monday, Dr. Marie C. Stopes enumerated "three inevitable results" of compelling professional women to give up their work on being married.

MORE PAY FOR NURSES
In spite of the sentiment poured out over the nursing profession by Anti-Suffragists, who consider it almost the only womanly occupation outside the home, it is so badly paid and so unattractive that the greatest difficulty is being experienced.

Better Pay Where Women Vote
The Secretary of the Royal British Nurses' Association, interviewed on the subject, says that emigration accounts largely for the shortage of nurses in New Zealand.

Wanted—A Vote
Mrs. Bedford Fenwick, interviewed by the Daily News, said that for ten years nurses had been petitioning Parliament in favour of a Registration Act.

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SMALL WOMEN BE SOLICITORS?

What the Public Wants
The Council of the Law Society decided at its general meeting last Friday to oppose the second reading of Mr. Hill's Bill to open the profession of solicitor to women.

Does the Profession Oppose the Bill?
This was also the view of Mr. Joel Emmanuel, a solicitor of fifty years' standing in the City, who said further to a representative of the Standard that he believed a large number of lawyers shared the opinion that women were just as capable as men of being solicitors.

Dr. Marie C. Stopes
In an admirable letter to the Times last Monday, Dr. Marie C. Stopes enumerated "three inevitable results" of compelling professional women to give up their work on being married.

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The Fashionable Shopping Centre of Birmingham and the Midlands.

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THE ACADEMIC LIBERAL

A woman Suffrage resolution was carried by a majority at the meeting of the General Committee of the National Liberal Federation at Northampton, last Friday.

DROWSY BEHIND THE GRILLE
We gather from evidence given last week before the Ventilation Committee of the House of Commons that there are actually some women left who do not find it degrading to submit to the indignity of sitting behind the grille in the Ladies' Gallery.

WHERE TO SHOP
IN PROVINCES AND SUBURBS
COMPARISON IS THE TRUE TEST OF VALUE.

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ACTRESSES' FRANCHISE LEAGUE

2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
President: Lady Forbes-Robertson
Some disappointment was experienced at the fact that there was no contest in East Fife, as the A.F.L. had laid plans to go North in good force to help in the work of the by-election.

UNITED SUFFRAGISTS
3, Adam Street, Strand, London, W.C.
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THREE TAX RESISTERS

At Bath on March 31 goods were sold belonging to Miss Wratulian in consequence of her refusal to pay inhabited house duty.

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TEMPERANCE WOMEN DEMAND VOTES

Government Measure Only!
At the annual council meetings of the Scottish Christian Union of the British Women's Temperance Association at Edinburgh, last week, a resolution was moved stating that the meeting reaffirms its previous decisions regarding the enfranchisement of women.

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THE EASTER CONFERENCES

At the conferences both of the I.L.P. and the National Union of Teachers, to be held during Easter, Suffrage resolutions will be submitted.

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Single insertion, 24 words or less, 2s., 1d. per word for every additional word (four insertions for the price of three).

All advertisements must be prepaid. To ensure insertion in our next issue, all advertisements must be received not later than Tuesday afternoon. Address, the Advertisement Manager, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 27, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C.

NEXT SUNDAY'S SERVICES

ST. MARY-AT-HILL.—Church Army S. Church, Eastcheap. Sundays, 9 and 6. Pews, orchestra, band, Prebendary Carlisle.

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LARGE ROOM to let, suitable for Meetings, At Home, Dances, Lectures. Refreshments provided.—Apply Alan's Tea Rooms, 263, Oxford Street.

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SOUTHPORT.—A single lady, living alone, very much occupied, would like to meet with another lady to share her house. Good residential locality.—Box 524, VOTES FOR WOMEN, 47, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, London, E.C.

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HAIR DESTROYER.—James' Depilatory instantly removes superfluous hairs from the face, neck, or arms, without injury to the skin. Of most chemists, or free from observation, post free on receipt of postal order for 1s. 8d., 2s. 9d., or 5s.—Mrs. V. James, 268, Caledonian Road, London, N.

POULTRY AND PROVISIONS.

GIVE THE FISHERMEN A CHANCE FRESH FISH, 5lb. 2s.; 8lb. 2s. 6d.; 10lb. 3s.; cleaned; carriage paid; lists free.—The Fishermen's Syndicate, No. 5, Pooton, Grimsby.

TRAVEL.

ALGERIAN TOURS, SPANISH TOURS, Riviera Tours, Lucerne Tours. Hand-book 33 cent free on request.—Dr. Henry S. Lunn (Ltd.), 5, Endsleigh Gardens, London, N.W.

TOILET REQUISITES

HAIR GROWER.—Gracie Hair Grower makes hair grow and restores grey hair to its natural colour. Hundreds of letters from customers. Contains no dye. Price, 3s. 6d. of Boot's, Army and Navy Stores, Harrod's, &c., or from Gracie Co., 310, Regent Street, London; 57, Lord Street, Southport.

HANDS.—Gracie Nail Emamel super-soles and nail polish. One application gives brilliant polish for 14 days. Sample bottle with sample Gracie Cream—the complexion cream—Powder, &c., one shilling.—Gracie Co., 310, Regent Street, London; 57, Lord Street, Southport.

GARDENING.

BEES' "ADAPTA" PLANTS Seeds and Roses.

ROCK PLANTS. Bees have made selections of dwarf plants suitable for rockeries and fronts of borders in various soils, positions, and aspects. These plants have been grown in pots, and may be transplanted now without check. They are strong flowering specimens and will bloom this year.

Price of each Collection of 12 strong sturdy plants 5/-; Any or more items at 6d. each. Three plants of same name for 1/-; Two collections 9/6; three for 14/-; four for 18/-.

SANDY SOIL (SUNNY), including Gracian Milfoil, Double Rock Pink, Lagasac Persian and Ewer's Stonecrop.

MEDIUM SOIL (SUNNY), including Persian Candytuft, Dr. Mule's Aubretia, Shining Pentstemon and Woolly Thyme.

HEAVY SOIL (SUNNY), including Double White Rock, Wallace's Aubretia, Isabel's Bellflower, Double White Pine, Starry Alpine Phlox, and Catchfly Champion.

BONE DRY POSITIONS. Top of walls, rocky ledges where “nothing” grows, including Golden Sandwort, Kenilworth Ivy, White Stonecrop and Rock Purslane.

LIGHT SOIL (IN SHADE), including Host's White Bellflower, Pale Tawd Flax, Small Catchfly, and Purple Horned Violet.

TOWN GARDENS, including Double Yellow Alysson, Marshall's Aubretia, Maiden Pink, Evergreen Candytuft, and Starry Alpine Phlox.

ART CATALOGUE OF HARDY PLANTS, illustrated in natural colours, is free for the asking. There is an immense variety of plants described and pictured, and a plan of a border showing how plants should be arranged.

ESTABLISHED ROSES IN POTS

The following new and distinct roses are in 42-in. pots. They have been grown in pots from the first, and are sturdy well-rooted plants. For greenhouse culture or planting out they will be most suitable, and can be transplanted at any time.

Price 1/3 each; 12/- doz., customer's selection. Price 1/- each; 10/6 doz., Bees' selection.

160 P. Altmark, H.T., rich golden yellow, tinted red, large and full. 387 P. Charlotte Klein, C. very red, medium size, dwarf bushy grower. 754 P. Frau Ernest Fischer, H.T., pink, shaded, copper, yellow, large, full, free flowering. 985 P. James Ferguson, H.T., sport from Caroline Testout, broad silvery pink petals. 1019 P. Jonkheer, J.L. Mock, H.T., rich carmine, of large full form, changing to imperial pink, very free and vigorous, highly scented. 1085 P. Lady Greenall, saffron orange, bordered cream, robust and fragrant in pots. 1490 P. Mary, Countess of Ilchester, H.T., warm, crimson, carmine. 1590 P. Mrs. Cornwallis West, H.T., entrancingly beautiful, transparent, delicate, pink. 1630 P. Mrs. Fred Straker, H.T., salmon pink, to silvery fawn, with delicate orange pink reverse. 1697 P. Mrs. Wallace H. Rowe, H.T., bright scarlet. 770 P. General MacArthur, H.T., bright scarlet. 2057 P. Sunburst, H.T., a superb cadmium yellow, with yellow orange centre. 2130 P. Viscount Carlou, H.T., warm carmine pink on deep cream, edged carmine.

ROSES IN POTS

These are strong, vigorous young trees, which will give a good account of themselves during the present year. They may be planted any time in April or May with perfect safety, having been carefully potted last autumn with the view of rendering them suitable for late spring planting, to fill up gaps, or for growing on in pots.

DWARF OR BUSH ROSES

Strong trees in 6-in. pots, 1s. each. 240 P. Avoca, H.T., crimson scarlet, fragrant, pretty in bud. 325 P. Betty, H.T., copper rose, shaded gold. 365 P. Caroline Testout, H.T., rose satin pink. 765 P. Frau Karoline Testout, H.T., snowy white, very large. 770 P. General MacArthur, H.T., bright scarlet crimson. 915 P. Hugh Dickson, H.P., fine crimson scarlet, a giant amongst red roses, fragrant, altogether first class. 1010 P. J. J. L. Mock, H.T., carmine, changing into imperial pink. 1225 P. La France, H.T., splendid rose lilac, fragrant. 1235 P. Mme. Abel Chateaux, H.T., salmon pink, fragrant. 1375 P. Mme. Ravary, H.T., pale orange, old gold centre. 1600 P. Mrs. David McKee, H.T., creamy yellow, very large. 1660 P. Mrs. John Laing, H.P., delightful soft pink.

NEW LAWS FOR OLD

Is your lawn brown and patchy? Instead of feeling beneath your feet like a rich spring carpet, does it feel silny or mossy or hard and unresilient? The fault lies in the turf of course. Unless your turf is composed of grasses which are at home in your neighbourhood you can never have a satisfactory lawn. The cure is obvious. Sow with

BEES' "ADAPTA" LAWN SEED

especially adapted to your local conditions. Full particulars on application.

BEES, LTD., 175, W. MILL STREET, LIVERPOOL.

PLANTS for bedding and herbaceous borders.—Good plants guaranteed. Send for catalogue. Choice cut flowers—carnations, violets, daffodils, tulips—from 6d. box. Vacancy for student.—Miss C. M. Dixon, Elmcroft Nurseries, Edenbridge, Kent.