

THE VOTE.
October 10, 1913.
ONE PENNY.

QUALITY OR QUANTITY? C. DESPARD.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. VIII. No. 207.

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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1913.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

OBJECTS: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men;
to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between
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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Police-court Justice.

We call pointed attention to the case reported by our special correspondent, Mrs. Watson, from the Clerkenwell Sessions of a young woman who was practically bullied into pleading guilty, and to a most corrupt arrangement between the prosecuting and defending counsel and the Bench. Her defence was connected with her husband's alleged relations with another woman, the husband being the person who put the police on his wife's track. To clear his character, and that of another man, an innocent woman was coerced into pleading guilty against her will and against her judgment. It is with growing indignation that one views the immoral slackness with which our courts are conducted; and a further proof of the general disregard for decency was furnished on Tuesday morning, when the Suffragists, arrested at the London Pavilion, were brought before Mr. Mead.

"People Who Must Go."

It will not be forgotten that Mr. Mead is the magistrate who committed Queenie Gerald for trial, admitted her to bail, protected her *alias*, and instructed the Press that he was holding "a secret inquiry." Mr. Mead, presiding over Suffragist cases, does not display any undue leniency. Converting himself into an additional prosecutor for the police, Mr. Mead backed up the police in their somewhat lame efforts and took upon himself the cross-examination of defendants, not even drawing the line at a suggestion that one witness—whom he eventually acquitted!—would hold perjury as well as arson justifiable for members of the W.S.P.U. From the most vicious of cross-examining barristers this would have been improper; from the Bench, which is supposed to supply an "impartial" tribunal, such a remark is amazingly improper. Further matter for comment—we have frequently commented on it before—is supplied by the appearance of none but police evidence in support of the charges. According to these official witnesses there was "a large crowd," all "very hostile" to the women; and among such it surely would not have been difficult to secure some independent evidence; but in case after case two police constables or two detectives, or a constable and a detective, followed each other with monotonous repetition, each in turn giving his stereotyped replies suggested by the questions of Mr. Muskett. This form of procedure has become indecently flagrant.

Sex Privileges.

During the morning some "indecent cases"—i.e., cases concerning women—came on for hearing, and there was the usual exclusion of women from the court, a number of evil-looking men being readily admitted. Names of those who were refused entrance, and the numbers of the police constables, were at once taken, and a test case will be brought unless Mr. Mead gives an undertaking that this practice shall be discontinued. In regard to the case in which the Women's Freedom League was concerned—the bullying arrest of Mrs. Deal while peacefully selling THE VOTE—so much delay took place in admitting her friends that her case had been actually settled by the time our members got into the court.

The Wetherall Case.

The memorial to secure the discharge from the police force and the trial for dereliction of duty of the constables who gave evidence on oath in the Wetherall

case has been extensively signed in Homerton and Hackney. There is to be a Cabinet meeting next Tuesday, so that Mr. McKenna and the other gentlemen concerned will be on the spot to answer questions, through the *telephone*, about what they intend to do with these men and with Mr. Bodkin. *Verb. sap. sat.* The memorial will be presented by members of the League and Mrs. Parrott; and two of the Borough Councillors of Homerton and Hackney have shown great interest in the case and allowed their names to be associated with the protest.

The little girl, Violet Parrott, has been dangerously ill, and her condition has caused her mother serious anxiety. Mrs. Parrott has lost the lodgers who were her source of livelihood, and other connections being difficult to get at a moment's notice, has been obliged to part with some of her furniture to help herself out. The whole burden of the wrongdoing has fallen on the shoulders of the innocent and the injured; and the man who has been the cause of it shows neither shame nor remorse, and continues to visit the neighbourhood freely. It will be noticed that in the case quoted in our column, "The Protected Sex," the counsel who persuaded his client to plead guilty against her will withdrew, on his own account and responsibility, the allegations made by the woman against the manager of a big firm. No one intervened to secure this much justice or consideration for poor Violet Parrott. Not only did police witnesses slander her and make out that her conduct had been light and her relations with another man immoral; the judge himself said that she might be relating the facts correctly, but attributing them to the wrong man—a statement that amounted to a charge of deliberate perjury. In the face of such rank injustice and official impropriety, we will carry out this protest and pursue our campaign against the Public Prosecutor and his complacent colleagues, even if it takes us to Holloway for contempt of court and libel.

The Glasgow Scandal Case.

We are glad to note that the Glasgow Branch of the Women's Freedom League is making a strong stand with regard to this scandal, as the following paragraph will show. The least that can be done is to make a full inquiry.

At a meeting of the Glasgow Branch of the Women's Freedom League, on October 2, at which Mrs. Gatty spoke on the relation between women's wages and the social evil; the following resolution was passed with regard to the Glasgow scandal case:—
"That this meeting condemns the trial by summary jurisdiction of the Glasgow Scandal Case, the suppression of the names of the 'influential gentlemen' connected with it, the inadequate penalty of two months' imposed on the keepers of the immoral house, and demands a full inquiry into the case, the payment of the minimum living wage to all working girls, the strengthening of the Criminal Law Amendment Act, and votes for women without delay."

What is Wrong with Sir Almroth Wright?

From our postbag we quote the following brief and pertinent answer to the above question:—

"Sir A. Wright has a general prejudice against things that begin with 'W,' like Woman and Washing. To this there is one outstanding exception. He believes implicitly in Wright—and Wright is generally Wrong.—
Yours faithfully,
HERBERT H. PRESBURY."
35, Lavengro-road, W. Norwood, S.E.

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International Department—Mrs. HARVEY, Brackenhill, Bromley, Kent.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

Caxton Hall, Wednesday Afternoons.—We hope to see a really good muster of our members and friends next Wednesday afternoon at Caxton Hall, when Mrs. Nott Bower will speak on "Heroines of the French Revolution," and Mrs. Marion Holmes will deal with "The Present Political Situation." Those who heard Mrs. Nott Bower's lecture on "The Shakespearian Character of the English Woman of To-day" in the early part of this year will be delighted to have the pleasure of listening to her again, and old members of the Women's Freedom League will rejoice to have this opportunity of hearing Mrs. Holmes's political views. The chair will be taken punctually at 3.30 by Mrs. E. N. M. Clark. The following Wednesday afternoon the speakers will be Miss Eunice Murray and Miss Nina Boyle, and the chair will be taken by Mrs. Tanner. Admission to these meetings is free.

Evening Discussion Meetings.—Our first meeting was such a success that we confidently look forward to a crowded hall on Monday, October 20, when Mr. Laurence Housman will give his lecture on "Petticoat Government," to be followed by a discussion. This lecture is of a highly controversial nature, and we recommend our readers to apply early at this office for their tickets, the prices of which are 2s. 6d. (numbered and reserved), 1s. (reserved), and 6d. (unreserved). The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock by Miss Eunice Murray. The third discussion meeting will be held in the front office of 1, Robert-street, Monday, November 3, when a lecture will be given by Dr. Dorothea Tudor on "Women's Work in the Bulgarian Medical Department during the Recent War in the Balkans," and the chair will be taken by Miss A. A. Smith.

Political Meetings.—Our friends are asked to keep Friday evening, October 31, free for our meeting at Caxton Hall. The speakers will be Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle and Mrs. Marion Holmes. The chair will be taken by Miss Eunice Murray at 8 o'clock.

N.U.W.W. Conference at Hull.—Readers will be glad to know that Mrs. Tanner is now at Hull representing the Women's Freedom League at this conference, and we hope that a report of the proceedings there will be given by her in next week's VOTE.

"Hiawatha" at the Cripplegate Institute.—We would direct the attention of all our members and friends to the advertisement on another page of these two performances the proceeds of which are to go to support our paper. We are confident that these performances will be well worth witnessing and we are sure that our readers will agree that THE VOTE is well worth supporting. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

MRS. HARVEY'S IMPRISONMENT. MESSAGE FROM MRS. HARVEY.

Comrades,—I planned a very different first week out of Holloway, but I reckoned without the Governor! And it is a bitter disappointment to be unable to gather up the threads of my life more rapidly; I want, more than I can express, to be working with you again. The fight, however, is going on, and will go on, until we have done everything in our power to force some logic and common-sense into the rules and regulations of the Home Office; at present they are singularly deficient in both.

Lying here I have learned the history of the last month. I am overwhelmed with the thought of all

you have done, and hope before long to have the privilege of showing my keen appreciation of your strenuous efforts and of thanking you for your personal sympathy. Meanwhile, I am trying to let patience have her perfect work, so that all the sooner I may be able to attack arrears of work.—Yours, as ever,
K. HARVEY.

THE GOVERNMENT'S VINDICTIVENESS.

The Women's Freedom League and the Women's Tax Resistance League have endeavoured ever since the prosecution of Mrs. Harvey to demonstrate the vindictiveness of the Government's pursuit of that lady; and if further evidence of it were required it would be found in the treatment she has received at the hands of the Governor of Holloway and the Home Office. Owing to the shameful dampness of her cell—a hospital cell!—after the daily scrubbing, Mrs. Harvey contracted a rheumatic chill at the beginning of the week before her release. Application was at once made to the Governor and the Home Office for the services of a homeopathic doctor, Mrs. Harvey being accustomed to that form of medical treatment. It may be of interest to know that when a similar request was made recently, on behalf of Miss Forbes Robertson, it was not only granted without delay, but her own medical adviser was brought from St. Leonards at the Government's expense. In the case of Mrs. Harvey the request was curtly and insultingly refused.

The Governor's Idea of Her "Satisfactory Condition."

Had Mrs. Harvey received the necessary treatment at the time she applied for it, there is little doubt that the indisposition

The Right Rev.

THE BISHOP OF KENSINGTON WILL ADDRESS A PUBLIC MEETING

(organised by the Votes for Women Fellowship) in the
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Other Speakers:

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Tickets, 2/6, 1/- and 6d., to be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, "Votes for Women," 4-7, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E.C., or from the Secretary, Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

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would have proved a slight one. In consequence of the attitude of the authorities, and the distress of mind occasioned by it to a woman of frail constitution, her condition changed gravely for the worse, and for several days was very serious, the indisposition having developed into gastric catarrh. Mrs. Harvey suffered great pain, was completely helpless, and her temperature rose. In two days she lost a stone in weight, and her appearance even after much improvement had taken place was a great shock to her solicitor, who was allowed to visit her later on. But in reply to a telegram from her daughter (the greatest anxiety being felt owing to the refusal to allow the attendance of a homeopathic medical adviser), the Governor had the assurance to reply that the prisoner's condition was "satisfactory."

At this point we must refer to the case of Mr. Ball, whose wife, until the last moment of his removal in a condition of dangerous dementia to Colney Hatch Asylum, was informed that his condition was "satisfactory." It would almost seem as if prison authorities considered a dangerous illness to be the "satisfactory" state for prisoners who suffer for principle and not for crime.

When Mrs. Harvey requested that a renewed petition be forwarded to the Home Office on this question of medical attendance, the Governor informed her that this could not be done until the result—i.e., the acceptance or refusal—of a prior petition (to be allowed to see her solicitor) was settled. Almost immediately after he had made this excuse for delay, the wardresses wished to prepare Mrs. Harvey for the solicitor's visit! The object of the Governor's behaviour, in pretending he did not know of the result of the prior petition when he had already instructed the staff in that result, was to postpone further petitioning until the week-end, and thus to manufacture still more delay.

Such petty meanness and falsehood for no purpose, save more completely to annoy and distress a sick and helpless woman, would be contemptible in a porter or a warder. What is it, then, in the Governor of a Government institution? It reflects beyond doubt the official attitude towards those who are not deemed powerful enough to retaliate.

Solitary Confinement—Solitary Exercise.

Another convenient method of torture was provided by the fact that Mrs. Harvey suffers painfully from deafness. No sound penetrated her cell, nor was she allowed to have her cell-door open, although in the hospital such a privilege is frequently permitted to the sick or afflicted. Rule 243a, specially devised to give privileges to those whose lack of "moral turpitude" entitles them to come under it, became, in her case, an instru-

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ment of torture. It guarantees Suffrage prisoners against association with criminals, and allows them to exercise together; but as the only Suffrage prisoners were hunger-striking, and that entails solitary confinement, Mrs. Harvey was not allowed to see them. Her request that she might be allowed to be in the ward with the women and babies was refused. She was exercised alone, as well as locked up alone, in utter silence as well as solitude for the entire month—a refinement of cruelty, we venture to say, which reflects little credit on the gentlemen who indulged in it, or the system which allows it.

We believe these facts speak for themselves, and have only to be placed before the public to secure their condemnation. We maintain that prisoners have as clear a claim to the special form of medical treatment, as they have to the special form of religious ministrations in which they believe and in which they feel secure.

HOW THE CAT JUMPS.

Beyond doubt the Suffrage cat is crouching for a spring. There are no scientific instruments such as astronomers and meteorologists depend on to announce the impending storm or earthquake, but the signs are unequivocal nevertheless. The triumph of the prison-van reform has vindicated the truthfulness of Suffragist women, and given the public some idea of how readily the official lie is forthcoming on all occasions; for although no influential Press organ, in announcing the approaching change, has alluded to Mr. McKenna, it must not be forgotten that the Home Secretary and the Commissioner of Police started out by denying *in toto* the statements made about the vans and their conditions. It would be no bad thing to republish from *Hansard* the answers given to Mr. Jowett in February, 1912, and again in 1913, and compare them with the compliments now being paid to the "decision" of the Commissioner of Police to effect a change.

"At last," says one Press organ, "the militant Suffragettes have done something useful!" The public has already forgotten, so short is its memory and so ungrateful its heart, that it was militant Suffragettes who improved the accommodation in the cells of all the more important police-stations; who secured new, and clean, bath accommodation at Holloway; and who, best of all, secured the appointment of a woman inspector for his Majesty's prisons for women. These are but a few reforms secured; but far and away the most radical and effective reform of all is the way in which the women's movement is now discussed by Press and public!

Some time ago a scurrilous emanation from the pen of a well-known physician roused an extraordinary amount of interest. An influential organisation published and circulated it, and straightway lost its influence. Men quoted it, and—we were informed—Parliamentarians seized on it eagerly as an excuse for a fresh piece of treachery, the defeat of a Suffrage Bill. To-day, no one dares quote it seriously; and its sequel and successor has fallen utterly flat, or, at worst, has been made a peg on which to advertise Suffrage opinions. The Press organs which heralded Sir Almoth Wright's first pronouncement as if it were a revised edition of the Gospels, have found nothing but rebuke or ridicule for his second effort. With the exception of *The Standard* and an incredibly vulgar outbreak in *The Morning Post*, the Press has shown, as a whole, that it is tolerably certain which way the Suffrage cat is going to jump; and, like certain opportunist politicians, is prepared to jump first and pretend that it showed the way.

C. NINA BOYLE.

ARREST OF A MEMBER.

A ridiculous charge of obstructing the police was preferred against our VOTE seller, Mrs. Deal, on Monday last, outside the London Pavilion. Mrs. Deal had only just arrived and had scarcely begun to sell the paper; but because she did not understand that the gutter, not the kerb, was her proper place (according to police regulation), she was taken into custody without being allowed the least opportunity of making an explanation—the custodians of public safety being so hysterical that they hardly knew what they were doing. Accompanying Miss Boyle to Vine-street, Mr. Hugo Ames

kindly offered bail. The next morning, at Francis-street, Mr. Mead imposed the regulation sentence, and Mrs. Deal was bound over for six months to keep the peace which she had not broken, and not sell again on the same spot. But for her young son Mrs. Deal would have elected to go to prison.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Women Liberals to Oppose Liberal Anti-Suffrage Candidates.

At a conference at Castleford of Women Liberals in the Yorkshire area of the Women's Liberal Federation the following resolution was adopted:—

"This Conference, representing thirty Women's Liberal Associations, regrets the continued inaction of the Government on the question of Women's Suffrage, considers that the only method worthy of Liberal statesmen and Liberal traditions of dealing with the grave discontent among women is to remove the cause of that discontent, and protests against the militancy of a minority being made the excuse for withholding the Vote from every woman. Further, this Conference urges the Government to end the anomalies created under the existing law by putting the franchise, Parliamentary and local, on a simple and equitable basis for both men and women, and in particular calls upon the Government to take immediate steps to enable married women to vote for and be candidates for Town and County Councils outside London."

"This Conference pledges itself to do everything in its power to prevent the adoption by Liberal Associations of Parliamentary candidates who are opposed to Women's Suffrage, and to put forward every effort and influence for the return of Liberal Suffragists to the next Parliament."

Newcastle and Woman Suffrage.

On October 1 Mrs. Taylor, of Chipchase Castle, and Miss Ainsworth headed a deputation from the National Political League to the Newcastle City Council and addressed the Council on the subject of Women's Suffrage. They presented a petition asking the Lord Mayor to call a town's meeting to discuss the matter. It was agreed that a town's meeting be held.

Cat and Mouse Arrests at the W.S.P.U. Offices and the Pavilion.

On October 1, after an exciting scene outside the headquarters of the Women's Social and Political Union in Kingsway, the police arrested Mrs. Sanders, financial secretary, and Miss Kerr, the manageress, under the "Cat and Mouse" Act. According to *The Daily Telegraph*, "it was only after a tremendous struggle" that the detectives managed to get the two "mice" free from their bodyguard of Suffragettes and into taxi-cabs. Both have been released after hunger-striking. Later in the day four women were charged at Bow-street with obstructing the police, and fined 40s. or a month (second division). The fines were paid.

The Home Secretary, in reply to a petition for annulment of her sentence of twelve months on the ground that her work was constitutional, said that if Miss Kerr would confirm his impression of her statement that she would not break the law in future, he would accede to the request. This undertaking Miss Kerr refused to give, and Mr. McKenna has consequently, declined to order a remission.

On October 6 Miss Annie Kenney and Miss D. West were re-arrested at the W.S.P.U. meeting at the London Pavilion, after considerable violence, and great difficulty was experienced in getting the taxi-cabs free from crowds and supporters of the Suffragettes. On October 7 eleven persons arrested for obstruction appeared before Mr. Mead, and were fined or sentenced to varying terms of imprisonment.

Irish Suffragists and Mr. Lloyd George.

The secretary of the Irish Women's Suffrage Federation having written to Mr. Lloyd George proposing to lay before him on his visit to Dublin proofs of the extent and vitality of the Women's Suffrage movement in Ireland, and to demonstrate to him that no form of government in Ireland in which women were unrepresented could fulfil its duties justly or adequately, has received a reply stating that the Chancellor will receive a deputation during his visit to Dublin in December next.

To Mr. Asquith—From America this Time.

From the National Women's Trade Union League of America we have received the welcome news that in Convention at St. Louis, Missouri, in June, 1913, they unanimously adopted the following resolution:—

WOMEN SUFFRAGE IN GREAT BRITAIN.

"Whereas the democratic movement for freeing women from their political and economic shackles is in all lands one, and

"Whereas we feel the deepest sympathy with our British sisters in the long and arduous struggle which has now extended over half a century to obtain the ballot, and

"Whereas the bringing of this all-important question before Parliament is persistently delayed and blocked by the action of the British Government, be it

"Resolved, That we, the delegates to the National Women's Trade Union League of America, in Convention assembled, do protest against the attitude of the British Government as opposed to those liberal and democratic traditions, which they

THE FASHION FOR FUR :: SUBSTITUTES

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and we alike inherit, and for which in the eyes of the world Great Britain stands, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to the British Prime Minister and to the principal Suffrage Societies of Great Britain."

Man Hunger-Striker Dies in Prison.

Albert Davis, 21, a cowman of Stafford, sentenced to fifteen months' hard labour for theft, died in Bedford Prison on October 7, after hunger-striking. At the inquest it was stated that Davis was refractory, refusing to work or eat. The Governor said that as Davis was not forcibly fed it was not necessary to acquaint the Home Secretary.

THE CHURCH LEAGUE AT THE CHURCH CONGRESS.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage carried on a vigorous campaign during the Congress week at Southampton. Meetings were held in the local offices every afternoon, followed by services of intercession and meditation in St. Michael's Church, at which addresses were given by different clergy, the Rev. Canon Scott Holland, D.D., and the Rev. F. Lewis Donaldson among the number. Outdoor meetings were held in the town, and among other activities were a lantern procession, poster parade, a stall in the Ecclesiastical Art Exhibition, and the great procession on Thursday, when the "Qui Vive" Corps were met by a large body of Suffragists of all shades of opinion, united under the banner of the Church League. The incoming and outgoing marchers joined in one procession to the Palace Theatre where a mass meeting was addressed by Canon Scott Holland, the Rev. G. H. Davis, the Rev. Lewis Donaldson, the Rev. A. Henson Haigh, and the Rev. T. A. Lacey, with the Rev. F. M. Green in the chair. The campaign was brought to a close on Saturday morning, after forty meetings had been carried out by the League. A large number of clergy signed the petition of bishops and clergy for Votes for Women. A new branch of the League has been formed in Southampton, and two other branches will be inaugurated before long.

The magnificent meeting at the Palace Theatre, which was packed to the doors, put a seal upon the conclusion of the Church as expressed in the Congress meetings. The Church has now voiced what she has always implied, namely, the equality of the sexes, which is the principle for which the Church League stands.

A. G.

All who are grateful for the splendid work done by Suffragists at the Church Congress are invited to be present at an "At Home," organised by the Church League, to meet the speakers of the Southampton Campaign, at the Caxton Hall, Tuesday, October 14, at 3.0 p.m. Tea, 6d.

EVENING DISCUSSION MEETINGS'
MRS. GALLICHAN ON "WOMAN AND HER
RELATIONSHIP TO MAN."

The first of our fortnightly discussion meetings, held last Monday evening at Caxton Hall, attracted a large audience and was a great success. The chair was taken by Miss A. A. Smith who explained that the Women's Freedom League was living up to its title by offering a free platform to various people who in the opinion of the League had something to say to us, and at all these meetings an opportunity would be given for frank discussion. Miss Smith introduced Mrs. Gallichan as a writer on Spain and things Spanish and as a woman who had shown clearly that she could and did think for herself.

Mrs. Gallichan prefaced her lecture on "Woman in her Relationship to Man" by a Sanskrit fable, which told at length the complex composition of woman, the tormentor of man, who came to the conclusion that he could not live with her and found life intolerable without her. The lecturer declared that man long ago looked upon woman much in the same way as a child regarded a forbidden toy, and that women were now trying to alter this conception of their sex, to prevent this waste, this futility of women, and the futility of men through women. There was an old antagonism of sex, the causes of which were chiefly economic and social, and largely accounted for the present condition of unrest among women. Referring to a recent book, in which Sir Almroth Wright solemnly stated that there were no good women except those who had come under the influence of some good man, Mrs. Gallichan said that there was a pleasing finality about this assertion. The writer had done real service to the woman's cause, and if we all would own up what were their real thoughts about the opposite sex we should certainly progress more quickly. "No book that I have ever read," said the lecturer, "has taught me so much about men as this unexpurgated work about women!" The truth was man feared woman and through her feared himself. He felt that woman was not to be trusted; she ought to be a delicious sex-parasite and her freedom should be curtailed. As to man's place in the order of things, Mrs. Gallichan considered that woman was the agent of nature, and man was but the agent of woman, and woman was really responsible for the conduct of man. The female had led and the male had followed in the process of evolution. Man had rebelled against his helplessness before the life force, he was the slave of woman, and woman had sometimes used her power for his undoing. In the future man will get his freedom through woman. Hidden in woman was an immense capacity for expenditure of force. Mrs. Gallichan considered that woman's highest good and happiness could be gained by merging herself—whole-heartedly, ungrudgingly—in man, and that the assertion of individuality was not of supreme importance to woman.

Miss Boyle, Mrs. Julia Wood, Miss E. J. Read, Miss Neilans, Mr. Kennedy, Mr. Whitworth, Mr. Westbrook, Mr. Seed and others took part in the subsequent discussion, which showed that many members of Mrs. Gallichan's audience were by no means in agreement with the latter part of her address. They were of opinion that the woman's point of view was as important as man's. Women had occasionally found men very trying, and some of them, at any rate, could quite easily live without men. The modern woman was not out to suppress her individuality, but to express it. Women now wanted value for what they had to give, for they were tired of giving something for nothing. Mrs. Gallichan had said, "What is the use of gaining the whole world if we lose ourselves?" But, as was pointed out, it was not a question of gaining worlds, and women had no intention of losing themselves. Women were willing to sacrifice much for anything worthy of sacrifice, but modern women used their intelligence as well as their emotions in the adjustment of values.

Good News.—The International Suffrage Shop is not to end its days because its premises have been required for Strand improvement; it has only crossed to the opposite side of the road to 11, Adam-street. All who valued the usefulness of the Shop to the Woman's Movement will wish Miss Trim the best of success in her endeavour to continue and develop the work of the International Suffrage Shop. Internationalism is the keynote of our movement.

THE FLORISTS.
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OXFORD UNIVERSITY SUPPORTERS
OF WOMAN SUFFRAGE.

We congratulate the Oxford University Men's Political Union for Women's Suffrage on the success of their meeting, held last Friday evening, at Kensington Town Hall. Mr. Nevinson said it was more than thirty years since he was an undergraduate, and came under the good influence of some good man at Oxford. He admired the courage of the young men who now came out to support the women's movement. We, too, admire them as we admire all men and women who come out to fight on the side of justice. This is what we expected the young men of Oxford to do, and fully endorse the statement of Mr. Geoffrey Dennis, Vice-President of the Oxford Union, that Oxford is not the home of lost causes but of causes yet to be won. As Mr. Dennis said:—"The woman's cause stands out above all others as a challenge to the age; it aims at justice, strives for the equality of human beings and for a return to the oldest and best traditions." Mr. P. E. Hobhouse, whose relative in the Cabinet supports Mr. Asquith's anti-suffragist views, declared that nothing could ultimately stand in the way of the complete emancipation of women, but it was for men now to prevent delay, and they would not rest until every college in Oxford had taken up this question. Mr. Gerald Gould described Sir Edward Carson as a verbal firebrand, but there was a whole width of a sea between Carson and Arson. Rifles had been arrested but not Sir Edward. The Government was afraid of him; the moral was that the Government must be made to be afraid of the women's supporters. Mr. Gould spoke strongly against the corruption of the law courts and the deliberate misdirection of juries by English judges. Miss Kerr and Mrs. Sanders, who had nothing against them beyond being paid by the W.S.P.U. for clerical duties, were serving sentences of twelve and fifteen months respectively, while Miss Queenie Gerald, who gained a livelihood by ruining young girls, had received a sentence of three months in the second division! The public had to realise that the people in this movement were out to deal with the problems of destitution and prostitution, and their foes were anti-suffragists like Mr. Asquith and suffragist-antis like Mr. Lloyd George. Mr. John Scurr made the speech of the evening. He told his audience that he had not come from Oxford. He had graduated in another university—East London—where he had matriculated between the age of thirteen and fourteen. It was true they had no proctors to find out what they did in the evenings, but there were plenty of foremen to see they got to work at six o'clock in the morning. Mr. Scurr said that although he belonged to the governed and not to the governing class he was glad to have the opportunity to stand shoulder to shoulder with them in their endeavour to right a great wrong. He referred to the case of Mrs. Harvey who, because she was a suffragist, was fined £16 7s. 7d. for not complying with the regulations of the Insurance Act on ten counts; while a man at Doncaster had offended thirty-one times, had deducted 4d. each time from his servants' wages, and then had not paid the Insurance, was fined 50s., while another man on the south coast had been fined £6 17s. 8d. Because Mrs. Harvey would not pay the fine she had been sentenced to two months' imprisonment in the second division, had been refused the treatment usually accorded to this class of offender in Holloway, and, when ill, had been refused the attention of her own medical adviser. In face of this, said the speaker, we have a medical man rushing into print to talk about the lack of morality in women! Mr. Scurr compared the Government's treatment under the Cat and Mouse Act of Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. George Lansbury with that of Mrs. Rigby. It was afraid of the power behind Mrs. Pankhurst, and knew that if George Lansbury had been re-arrested not a window or anything else would have been left unbroken in the district in which he lived, the Port of London would have been stopped, and every factory in the neighbourhood. Referring to his own arrest, Mr. Scurr said that at the time the authorities could not make up their minds what the law was. Why did they not now put it into action? Were they afraid of the Dockers' Union? Mr. Scurr added that in the East End of London they were in deadly earnest about votes for women; they were going to have their women folk respected and regarded as citizens, were determined they should have the protection of the vote. At the present moment girls were out on strike in Hoxton demanding a minimum wage of 8s. a week; 80,000 women were on the streets of London, the vast majority of them driven there by economic circumstances, and he resented this because those victims were the sisters and daughters of the people of his own class.

The chair was taken by Mr. H. D. Harben, and an effective appeal for funds was made by Mrs. Harben. Mr. Laski, the honorary secretary, stated that the Oxford Men's Political Union would shortly go on a deputation to Mr. Asquith, whom he described as a retrograde member of Oxford University.

THE NORTHERN MEN'S FEDERATION FOR
WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

It says much for the genuine interest of the public in the question of Votes for Women that, last Sunday, the audience at the Northern Men's Federation Meeting in the Meadows, Edinburgh, patiently endured a biting East wind and heavy showers of rain for two hours while listening to the rousing speeches delivered by Councillor Barrie, Mr. Gilzean, Mr. T. P. Gordon, Mr. Wilson Maclaren, Mr. Davidson, and others. On Friday evening two open-air meetings were held by the Federation, one in the Newington district and the other at the foot of Leith-walk, where large audiences gave the speakers a remarkably attentive and sympathetic hearing.



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FRIDAY, October 10, 1913.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.
Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

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

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QUALITY OR QUANTITY ?

Whatever may be said or thought about the Woman's Movement in general, whether it is feared or welcomed, praised or condemned, one thing is certain—it has set both men and women thinking. Formerly, for the most part, they accepted one another. "Man must work and woman must weep," was the sad creed of myriads of human beings. A young man must "sow his wild oats"; a young girl must always live upon sunlit heights of goodness.

Woman is the lesser man, and her passions unto mine
Are as moonlight unto sunlight, and as water unto wine.

This conventional parcelling off of human activities and emotions, though false from the beginning—for woman has ever been a busy worker and ardent lover—resulted in mental limitations of a disastrous kind, not only for woman herself, but for the race; and one of the benefits that has come from the modern awakening of womanhood is that it has led to a curiously searching examination of the old standards, especially in regard to religion and morality.

We have abundant evidence of this in the recent Church Congress, and also in the host of comments and criticisms that have been poured out upon it.

Under the general heading, "The Kingdom of God in the World of To-Day," two of the subjects discussed were "The Kingdom of God and the Sexes" and "The Kingdom of God and the Races." We believe it is no exaggeration to say that never before in the whole history of ecclesiastical Congresses has a note so broad and human, and withal so thrilling, been struck as upon this occasion.

It is not our intention here to notice particularly or to quote largely from the fine speeches that were made both by men and women on these momentous subjects. Miss Soulsby's reference to "womanliness in the melting-pot," and Miss Ruth Rouse's assertion that woman's demand is inspired by "desire for self-expression, liberty and service," are well worthy of remembrance; and no true woman can fail to sympathise with Miss Maude Royden in the extremely difficult task imposed upon her—to speak of Purity before so great a body of men and women, and boldly and plainly to show how it is sinned against in our modern Society; nor can we fail to admire her for the fine and fearless way in which she performed her task. We fervently hope that by and by a Kingdom of God or of righteousness will gain the mastery in all that belongs to sex-relations, for that would mean the return of the earth to her primal beauty and harmony. But that to which we wish to draw special attention now is the sort of half-fearful questioning that these strange phenomena arouse in the minds of average middle-class men as represented by the respectable, rather timid journalist of to-day.

One of these, writing the leading article in *The Times* of October 3, allows us to see pretty plainly that what concerns the male political economist is not the woman question at all. He recognises, indeed, that there is great ferment, and that it arises from deep-seated causes; he shows,

as we have always maintained, that the cry "Votes for Women" is not the whole, it is only a part of the great demand, and he realises that changes are impending, though whether these changes are to be for good or bad, for what is vaguely called progress or retrogression, it is difficult, he says, at the present stage of the movement, to determine. Its real importance lies—and here we agree with him—in its effect upon life. It is a little curious that the male wiseacre, who appears to be opening his eyes at last to the fact that our agitation is serious, did not discover this long ago; had he done so he might have understood a little better the forms, to him so strange, that the agitation is taking. For there is nothing so urgent as life. Tennyson's "Flower in the Crannied Wall" stands as an example of what life-force means. No soil so arid; no stone so apparently solid that, given the living seed and the thirst for manifestation, it will not pierce. Castles and temples built by mighty men for the display of their power and the evidence of their love crumble into ruins and decay before the light touch of those myriads of living things that Nature holds in her exhaustless reservoir.

Woman, the shrine of life, thirsting for life as her fulfilment, has found its sources poisoned. For ages of so-called civilisation she has borne this terrible burden; by her acquiescence in that which taints and dishonours what should be the sweetest and holiest thing in the universe she has added to her own burden. Now she has made up her mind to cleanse the polluted spring; and through the Divine illumination that, unconsciously often to themselves, has, like the Israelites' cloud of fire in the wilderness, guided the pioneer in all ages, she has seen and chosen her path.

Nothing to her that it may be the path of suffering. For life's sake—not her own, but of the race—she enters upon it gladly.

The *Times* critic says, in his mild way: "Some justification must be allowed them" (women) "in the conduct of men"; and he goes on, not perceiving the full significance of his words: "This is not a question of puritanical interference—it is a question of life. Vice is hostile to life; it is death. It must be, because it is the perversion or abuse of natural appetites, the function of which is to maintain and perpetuate life."

That is true. Many go so far as to believe that what is known by religionists as "the Fall"—a strange cataclysm that, at some indefinite period, broke in upon life's harmony—was really a sex-fall. In any case, it is distinctly evident that the very worst of our social miseries may be traced back to the perversion or abuse of the highest of all human functions—that which, in a true sense, links the human with the Divine.

In former generations the secret of this perversion was jealously guarded. Women, though wives and mothers, were severely censured, were said to be immodest if they ventured to question the nature of men's pleasures. A line of demarcation was drawn between the respectable woman and her sister, classed as "fallen," and only brave women with the burning soul of compassion behind them dared to cross that barrier.

Now—it is down. None—men or women—can profess ignorance of the hell-fires that lie beneath their sheltered world.

With this has come a further revelation. By what is permitted—by what is done—the quality of our national life is changing. Children are born unhealthy or—especially when subjected to bad conditions—develop strange diseases.

This is admitted, in a mild and condescending way, by *The Times* critic. "The test of serving life sets a limit to woman's new part. Her social co-operation may help to improve the quality of life, and she may find therein the justification of her claim to more liberty."

We feel sure that the man who wrote those words was pluming himself on his generosity. But the latent fear returns. "What shall it profit," he cries out, "to improve the quality of life if the supply fails?"

Food for the mill, food for the machine, food for the

cannon; food for the pleasure of those who, sitting idle, can pay in hard cash for the stimulation of their senses! And obedient, woman-devoted mother, diligent wife to be the source of supply?

No, for the first time in history, woman is in revolt. Quality, not quantity! If the birth-rate drops, let it drop! We of the Woman's Movement rejoice that it should be so. While we have woman's economic subjection; while we have young girls spending sadly the vitality that should be thrown into their race-work, in ill-paid and cruelly organised industry; while we allow in men what we condemn in woman; while there is amongst us the dreadful problem known as infant mortality we may ignore quantity. We are out in our Woman's Movement to create such a condition of things as will give back to man the pride and to woman the joy of fatherhood and motherhood.

Quality in our sons and daughters—health, strength, initiative, mental vigour—it is for this we are striving. We would bring back the joy of which Browning spake in his beautiful vision of youth.

How good is our life, the mere living!

How fit to employ all our heart, and our soul, and our senses, for ever in joy!

Until we see good hope of attaining that, such persons as *The Times* critic may rest assured we shall not be put back by his warning, that "the moment the new part clashes with the old it stands condemned."

C. DESPARD.

SKYE.

There is no spot in Scotland in which the names and exploits of women are more in evidence than in Skye. On one of the highest peaks lie the remains of a woman warrior, who chose this spot as her last resting-place in order that even in death her unconquered spirit might be free, with nothing to close or shut her in. Then there is Castle Moyle, where the people told you in olden days lived the forerunner of the Suffragette, by name "Saucy Mary," who stretched a chain across the sea, and levied an impost on all ships passing up and down the Kyle. Near Dunvegan one is shown the cave which for some time was the prison of the unhappy Lady Grange, wife of the Lord Justice Clerk, whose sad history is stranger than any fiction. In an evil hour for her she became aware that her husband and many of his friends were in league with the Jacobites in 1715. MacLeod and Macdonald agreed for their mutual safety to remove her to some distance and announce her death. So violently was this effected that two of her teeth were knocked out in the struggle. The unhappy lady was conveyed to Duirinish, and kept in a dreary cave, whence she was removed to Uist, and then to St. Kilda, where she remained seven years. Imagine, if you can, seven years in St. Kilda! Dreading lest any clue of her existence might be discovered, her persecutors now brought her back to Uist, then to Skye, where she contrived to despatch a letter to England, rolled up in a hank of wool. The chance purchaser of this wool forwarded the letter, which thus reached its destination safely, and deliverance seemed at hand. A Government boat was despatched in search of her, but failed in its quest, and her jailers carried her back to Innis-fada, the Long Island, carrying in the boat with her a rope with noose and heavy stone attached, wherewith to sink her to the lowest depth of the sea rather than suffer her to be rescued. The poor lady finally died in Skye, and was buried in the old kirkyard of Trunpan. The name that is most familiar to the world is that of Flora Macdonald. She herself was born not in Skye, but in Uist, but it was to Skye she brought Prince Charles Edward in an open boat from the Long Island, though the coast was strongly guarded by English ships. She landed him safely, and, dressed as a woman, took him to Kingsburgh's house, and finally guided him across the island in safety to Portree, where they parted never to meet again. In 1773 Dr. Johnson and Boswell visited Flora Macdonald in Skye, married in the interval, having twice been to America and

back with her husband. On one occasion during the American war the vessel in which they sailed from America was met by a French privateer, and an action took place. Flora appeared on deck, where her presence inspired the men with courage, and assured them of success. Thus she twice risked her life, once in the Stuart interest, once in the Hanoverian, and both times her intervention was successful. She is buried in the churchyard of Kilmuir, and a beautiful Iona cross has been erected over her remains by her many friends and admirers.

Now, turning from the women of the past to the women of to-day, there are two things that strike one very forcibly: first, the secondary place women hold in the councils of men, and second, how much of the hard work of the island is done by the women.

A few years ago when in Skye we watched a tall strong man walking along with his hands in his pockets, while beside him tottered a small woman heavily laden with a creel of peat. When someone remonstrated with this man, and asked him why he, a big strong fellow, didn't carry the peat and relieve his wife, he replied, "She's so wee she couldna' lift the creel upon my back." This reply is, I think, typical of much. In a village it is no uncommon sight to see the men loafing round, idly smoking, while the women are struggling to accomplish something. But in Skye, just as in other places, there is abroad a spirit of revolt; public opinion is slowly changing, and women are beginning to assert their rights. One woman to whom I spoke said, "It's not hard work I object to, but it's being thought inferior to men that I mind." And another, the landlady of a hotel, who paid annually over £60 in taxes, said to me, "It's ridiculous that a woman like me, the largest taxpayer about here, doesn't have the vote, and just because I'm a voteless woman half the idle men about think I know nothing, and won't listen to me when I suggest something for the common good." Another one, an old woman, who owned her own craft, and who was bent with old age and hard work, sent for me one day to tell me she was "a Suffragette." "Why not?" she wound up. "I was left a widow when I was twenty-six with six sons to bring up, and no one to help me but my sister." She told me that, when girls, she and her sister had often had a rope attached to their chests, and thus had drawn the harrow across the fields. She toiled early and late with one object before her—that of giving her sons a good education; and of the six one to-day is a minister, one a doctor, one in the Indian Civil Service, two are fishermen, and the sixth lives at home and helps her with the croft. "My sons have often told me they owe everything to me," she said, "and yet the State counts me as nothing." I asked her how she knew this. She smiled as she replied, "Oh, we've had Suffrage meetings here, and we've read and thought about it." Yet another woman I spoke to, young and pretty, with a child in her arms, shyly told me in low tones how her husband was a great one for the Suffragettes. He was a sailor, and had heard many speeches at the different ports he had been to in his ship. "He thinks them terrible clever, and quite right in what they ask for," she concluded, as she stretched out her hand for THE VOTE.

Everywhere I found the women beginning to demand the same privileges and rights as men; and, after all, is it surprising? Boys and girls attend the same school, sit side by side on the same benches, are taught by the same teachers. Would it not be strange for the girls to come away with different hopes and ideals from the boys? More than one young mother said to me, "It's time women had the vote so that they could see that young women were protected and looked after." "We can't keep our girls here on this island," they said; "we have to let them go very young to the towns, and it's hard to let them go, and it's feared we are when they go, for it's difficult for a young girl to keep straight, and if she falls it's she, and she alone, who bears the blame; the man goes free. It's not right."

So, even in the most remote and desolate spot, far

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removed from the daily papers and the agitators, I found that the torch has been lit, and women are determined to win for themselves and the coming womanhood equal rights and privileges with men. They realise it is the vote which will help them, and so they are anxious to join our ranks. To those who joined the Women's Freedom League I assured them they would not stand alone, but that they would form part of the great sisterhood banded together to battle against prejudice and injustice, and they on their part assured me they would keep the flag flying until the vote was won. E. G. M.

CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS."
Mr. Cameron Grant on Employment and Votes for Women.

A good audience welcomed Mr. Cameron Grant, our staunch champion and welcome lecturer, last Wednesday afternoon, and his address on "The Economic Wrongs of the Employer and Employed" threw fresh light on the important question of woman's place in the industrial world. Special sympathy was felt for Mr. Grant in the recent destruction by fire of the large engineering works with which he is connected. The disaster brought out an injustice to women under the Insurance Act which Mr. Grant insisted should be remedied. Although women in the employ of the firm are really engineers they were refused all unemployment benefit because they were women, though engineering is one of the trades in which men, under the Act, are insured against unemployment. Figures of the underpayment of women were given, among them 3s. to 7s.—never beyond—in some Yorkshire factories; the only remedy Mr. Grant sees is that women must have the protection of the vote. The result would be the levelling up of women's wages and a slight decrease in men's wages. The present decrease in wages because of the influx of women reacted on the spending power of the people. He spoke of the difficulties of employers who wish to pay better wages but are prevented by force of circumstances. He protested against the discussion of economic questions solely from the point of view of political parties—and votes. Owing to party bias the whole nation is not called into consultation to stop an evil which inflicts wrongs on employers and employed. "I see no possible solution," he observed, "till women have the vote. Woman Suffrage will tend to break up the party system. They will ask: 'Why?' and 'What?' not 'Who?' as men do, being satisfied with the reply, 'Good old So-and-So.' It is no use legislating for them; they must be taken into counsel and work with men as members of a great family." Mrs. Despard spoke strongly of the injustice suffered by Mrs. Harvey in Holloway, and said that the refusal of the Governor to allow her a homeopathic doctor had moved the Homeopathic doctors to take action in the matter. Miss Boyle presided, and commented in humorous-serious fashion on Sir Almroth Wright's latest book.

Spiritual Militancy League.

In an appeal to the religious men and women of England the League says: "We are confident that when the religious communions of our land have realised how the disabilities of women retard the practice of social justice and purity, they will be the first to co-operate in the task of abolishing them."

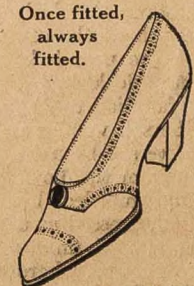
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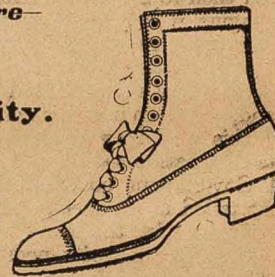


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WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

Girl Clerks in Rat-Infested Offices.

A second demonstration of masked clerks, organised by the National Union, was held on September 27. From the Temple steps on the Embankment nearly 100 clerks, among whom were several girls, marched in single file to Hyde Park, carrying sandwich-boards. One of the speakers in the park was Mr. H. H. Elvin, the secretary, who stated that the membership of the Union was now 11,000. Two bad offices were referred to. The first was a room 150 feet by 20 feet, in which were packed 150 clerks, among whom there had been several cases of consumption in the past year or two. The other was the case of twelve clerks (six being girls) working where several large rats are caught every week. Nervous debility, bad eyes, severe headaches, were afflictions which, it was stated, overtook many clerks, while the scourge of consumption was rampant in their ranks.

A resolution was carried setting forth that, in the opinion of the meeting, the grievances under which thousands of clerks laboured could only be remedied by organisation on Trade Union lines. The meeting further called on the Government to grant immediate facilities for the passing of a Bill to provide for Government regularisation and inspection of all offices.

Women Book-Binders to Organise.

A mass meeting of women workers in the bookbinding industry was held at the Holborn Hall on September 26, when a resolution pledging the women to stand by the men on strike, and to organise themselves into a Trade Union was carried with much applause.

Factory Act Prosecution: Southport Firm Fined.

At the Southport Police-court, before Mr. T. O. Canning (in the chair) and other magistrates, Messrs. Horrocks and Watson, potted meat manufacturers, Southport, were summoned under the Factory Act for employing two girls and three women after legal hours. Miss Taylor, of Manchester, one of H.M. Inspectors of Factories under the Home Office, prosecuted, Mr. R. A. Fletcher defended, and pleaded guilty.

Miss Taylor stated that the defendants were occupiers of a factory in which various potted meats and fish pastes were made, and about twenty women and girls were employed. The nature of the work was such that there were times when the workpeople were very much busier than at other times—for instance, when the fish came in. In view of this a special exemption was allowed by the Act, by which women over eighteen years of age might work overtime for two hours on a certain number of nights in the year, provided that certain regulations were complied with. The regulations were that whenever overtime was worked it should be reported to the district inspector so that there might be some sort of check on the number of nights the women were working. This only applied to women over eighteen years of age, and the exception had never applied to girls under eighteen. Miss Taylor said that the defendants had not reported since 1910, and on the night of August 21 she visited the factory after the legal period of employment, and found women at work.

Mr. Fletcher said he did not dispute Miss Taylor's statement; he pleaded guilty in each case, but said that if the girls worked after 7 p.m. they were paid overtime in every case. There was no secrecy connected with the case; the whole factory was well lighted. The defendants were fined 5s. and costs in each of the five cases—two girls under eighteen, and three women over eighteen.

CARAVAN CAMPAIGN IN SOUTH LONDON.

I am glad to be able to report that a very successful series of meetings (with one exception) was held in South London from September 22 to 30. I had the assistance of Miss Boyle once, who spoke to a large and interested audience in Battersea on September 23, and of Miss Read, who took the meeting at Loughborough Junction on September 27 with conspicuous success. She completely won over the crowd, which was at first inclined to be disorderly.

The unfortunate exception was Peckham, and the trouble was caused not so much by the hooligans present, who had quieted down, as by the indiscretion of a self-styled supporter, who obtained permission from the chairman to speak from the platform. To abuse the audience seemed to be his idea of speech-making, with the inevitable result—disorder!

One of the most satisfactory features of the Campaign was the changed attitude of the crowds at St. Luke's-road, Clapham, the scene of former rowdyism. Two really excellent meetings were held there, the crowds in both cases being large and orderly and the sale of papers most encouraging. Unfortunately, our first meeting in Brixton was held on a wet night, so that our crowd was not so large as usual. Still between two and three hundred people stood in the rain for an hour and a-half and seemed loth to go even at the end of that time. The second meeting at the same pitch was one of the best of the series. A huge crowd listened attentively to a speech of over an hour's duration and plied me vigorously with questions at the end.

Many of the audience asked me to keep on the meetings, but unfortunately my other engagements make this impossible for the present. I have had most valuable help from Mrs. Pickering, Mrs. Ball, Mrs. Presbury, Miss Spriggs, Miss St. Clair and others, both in selling THE VOTE and in taking the chair.

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THE "PROTECTED" SEX. THE CRIMINAL COURTS.

On Monday, September 29, at Clerkenwell, before Mr. Spokes, a young Frenchwoman was charged with stealing thirty-one dresses and coats, &c., from Messrs. Staggs and Mantle, where she had been employed as saleswoman. At the resumed hearing on Tuesday the defence told a pitiful story of the cruelty the prisoner had borne from her husband, who on more than one occasion had tied her in a chair, and left her all night. He had never supported her or their child, and his conduct became so bad that at last she applied for a separation order. The day after receiving his summons he went to Staggs and Mantle's, and accused his wife of stealing their goods. Many dresses were found in the prisoner's room; some she said her mother had bought for her, some she had made from models in Staggs and Mantle's; and others, she said, were sold by her when in their employ to a lady who directed them to be sent to her (prisoner's) own address. She suspected that the dresses were for her husband's mistress, and asked him about them. He told her not to worry about them, and she refrained from further questioning, being in fear of his violence. The prosecuting counsel suggested that she had left Staggs and Mantle's under suspicion. She denied this, saying that the managing director had caused her to be dismissed because she refused improper advances made by him. The case seemed likely to last for a considerable time.

Returning after lunch, however, I overheard an amazing bargain struck between the defending and prosecuting counsel, who agreed to try and settle the case. The defending counsel was to induce his client to plead guilty to one indictment, the prosecution to withdraw one of the indictments on their side, and to ask the judge to bind over the prisoner! Defending counsel talked earnestly to the prisoner, who for some time refused to consent to any such course, but finally, in despair and disgust, turned away from him saying, "Oh, do as you like." Prosecuting counsel then held a conversation with the judge, and the woman was asked as in the usual way, "Are you guilty or not guilty?" She replied, "I am sorry to say I am forced to plead guilty, but I'm not guilty." Everyone gasped; her own counsel got up and apologised to the judge, saying, "I cannot ask your lordship to accept that"; and after mutual protestations Mrs. Verguven was told she must plead guilty, if at all, without any reservations. Eventually she shrugged her shoulders, and said, "All right, I'm guilty." Her counsel then took it upon himself to apologise for, and withdraw the remarks made against the managing director! The judge then bound her over in £5 for twelve months.

All this took place in open court, no reporters save myself being present.

It must be pointed out that by this arrangement Messrs. Staggs and Mantle secure possession of the goods, for some of which the accused woman alleged they had been paid! Had she proved her innocence, as she desired to do, the goods would have been hers.

EDITH M. WATSON.

Chapter 8

What Some Folks call clean, others don't.

The particular woman wants her clothes
"a nice colour."

That's why particular women like Fels-
Naptha.

It not only takes out the dirt and stains,
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It's a new way of washing clothes
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Seems strange, but so did matches at first.

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now—who would use any other soap who
knows Fels-Naptha?

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S.H.B.

BRANCH NOTES.

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

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Croydon.—Office, 32A, The
Arcade, High-street.

Tax-Resistance was the subject most ably dealt with by Miss A. Hicks, M.A., at the "At Home" on October 2. Especial reference was made to Mrs. Harvey's resistance and consequent imprisonment. Members learnt of Mrs. Harvey's release with mixed feelings of joy that she was free, of regret that her health had so greatly given way during the past month. Miss Nina Boyle was the speaker at the open-air meeting on October 3, and the audience listened with great attention, showing their appreciation by applause. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Inwood, who has again made a good supply of chutney for sale at the office. Two new members joined last week. The secretary urges all members to attend the weekly meetings and to bring friends.

Kensington.

A members' meeting was held on October 2, at 1, Robert-street. A successful series of open-air meetings has just terminated, many of our audience being regular attendants. £1 6s. the proceeds of a whistle drive, has been forwarded to the London Branches Council. The secretary reported the addition of new members, and Miss Boyle spoke on the work of the Political and Militant Department. It was decided to hold a whistle drive shortly to supplement the Birthday Fund. Will members having collecting cards kindly return them to Branch secretary or treasurer.

Stamford Hill and Tottenham.

A committee meeting was held on Thursday, and it was arranged to use our coming organiser as a valuable help in getting up a hall meeting in November, so members please remember a date will be fixed for it during the first week of the month. Miss Cunningham kindly undertook to be treasurer, and the Birthday Fund is now ready for transmission to Headquarters.

PROVINCES.—Aintree.

The first public meeting of the season was held in Aintree Institute on Tuesday, September 30, when Miss Andrews was the speaker, and Mr. B. Bernard presided. The chairman described the world-wide character of the Women's movement, the rapid progress made during the last few years, and the good results already patent in the countries where women are enfranchised. Miss Andrews aroused great enthusiasm by her account of the excellent work accomplished by the W.F.L. on behalf of women and children in the police courts. She convinced her audience of the great need of the vote as a weapon by which women could influence both the law and its administrators, and also as a means of raising their social and political status. At the close of the meeting five new members joined the Branch, and names and addresses of several sympathisers were also obtained.

Manchester (Central Branch).—Office, 46A, Market-street.

On October 15, in the Clarion Café, 59a, Market-street, Mrs. Duncan will lecture on "Humour in Irish Poetry," musical illustrations to be provided by Mrs. Georgia Pearce and friends. Miss Andrews from Headquarters, will take the chair at 8 p.m. prompt. Members are asked to bring as many friends as possible, and show their appreciation by providing an audience worthy of so delightful a lecturer and musician. Helpers are urgently needed for the Jumble Sale on October 18, and should meet not later than 2.30 p.m. at the new premises of the Old Garratt Ragged School, 45, Sidney-street, Oxford-road (near All Saints'). Please help our funds by sending parcels of jumble on or before Friday, October 17, to Miss A. E. Horder, c.o. Mrs. Sharples, 9, Hughes-street, Brook-street, C-on-M.

Middlesbrough.

A short business meeting was held last Monday night at 35, Albert terrace, after which members dispersed to distribute bills announcing Town Hall meeting. During the week members have worked valiantly, and a house to house canvass has been carried on. Will members please remember the Jumble Sale on October 18?

Portsmouth and Gosport.

Many thanks to Mrs. Macpherson for her effort on behalf of the Birthday Fund. As a result 7s. has been handed to the treasurer. We are hoping in a very short time to be able to send the remainder of the £16 we promised. Mrs. White has kindly consented to give a Whist Drive at Derrymane, Aston-road, on Wednesday, October 22, at 7.30 prompt. Tickets, 1s. each. Open-air meeting, Friday October 10, Town Hall-square, 7.45 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Taplin.

SCOTLAND.—Dunfermline and District.—Organiser, Miss Ada Broughton.

During the past week successful meetings were addressed by Miss Broughton at Lochgelly, Cowdenheath, Crossgates and Dunfermline, when she took for her subject the question of "Votes and Wages." On each occasion her audiences accorded her an attentive hearing. Miss J. McCallum and Mrs. Beck kindly assisted her with the speaking. On Monday, at a meeting of the Lochgelly members arrangements were made for the reception and public meeting to be held on Oct. 7; it was also unanimously decided that now is the opportune moment to form a Branch in the district. Mrs. Geo. Stenhouse kindly promised to act as hon. secretary until the Branch met to appoint its officials. A Branch meeting was held on Tuesday in Dunfermline. A small working committee was appointed, and it was decided to hold regular meetings on the first Thursday in each month in the Y.M.C.A. rooms. During the week the organiser devoted part of her time to visiting in Lochgelly and Dunfermline, with the result that twelve new members were secured.

Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road.

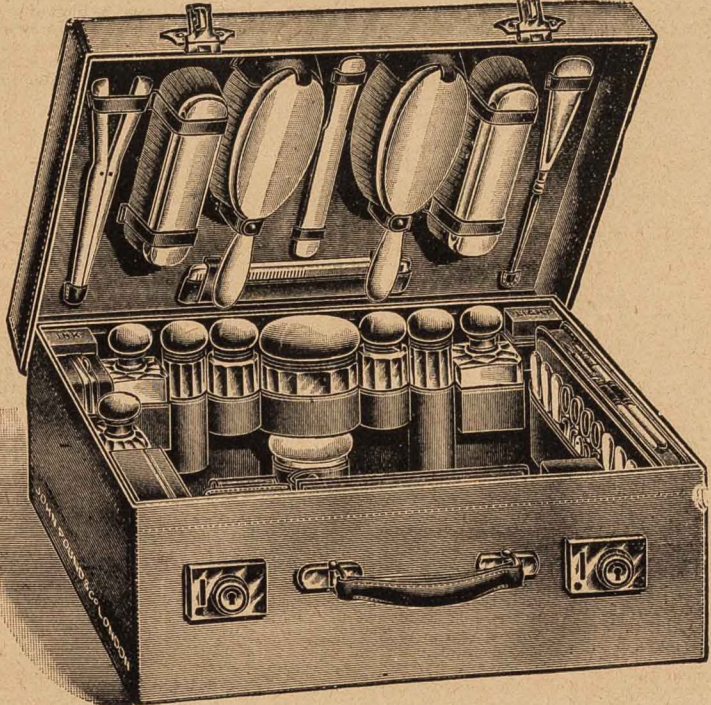
Our regular Wednesday meetings were resumed on October 1, when many members and friends gathered at an "At Home" in the Suffrage Shop. After tea, which was daintily served by Mrs. Jackson and her helpers, the chair was taken by Miss Sara Munro. Miss Marguerite Ferguson, Vice-President of the Branch, gave an interesting and helpful address dealing with the work that has been accomplished by the League, and the work that is still to do, and emphasizing the need of woman's direct influence in order to obtain satisfactory legislation

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IN THE PARKS.

Hyde Park.
In spite of bad weather the usual meeting was held in Hyde Park on Sunday, and it says much for the interest Mrs. Mustard aroused that the audience stood under umbrellas for an hour. When at the end of the meeting the chairman, Mrs. Hyde, announced that she had subscription papers for a quarterly or yearly subscription to THE VOTE, a good many were taken. One lady filled hers in, and handed over the money; two ladies from Madagascar would have done the same could they have been told the cost of postage. If at all open-air meetings the chairman would offer these papers the number of subscribers to THE VOTE would increase considerably; they will be gladly supplied on application to THE VOTE Office. Miss Trott very kindly sold THE VOTE at the park gates, and the result was most satisfactory. Who will volunteer for next Sunday at Hyde-park and Regent's-park?

Regent's Park.
Owing to rainy weather and the long wet grass, anything in the way of a meeting at our usual pitch in Regent's-park seemed impossible last Sunday morning, when our lorry took up its position there. Mr. Nevinson, however, had no sooner mounted it than people advanced from every quarter, and in spite of the weather we had an excellent and most interested audience. After the meeting a lady asked for and immediately received a card of membership. Mrs. Pierotti kindly came a long distance in order to sell THE VOTE.

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It is undoubtedly a fact that the mineral water treatment of rheumatism, gout, gouty eczema, gravel and other uric acid troubles, is most efficacious. You should therefore try "Vitaregis Aperient Water," which contains "Sulphur" in the most palatable form yet discovered, and is endorsed by the medical profession. It is used in the leading Hydros, and has the decided advantage of being quite odourless, as well as palatable, and is also a mild and effective Aperient. Half a tumblerful taken before breakfast, once or twice a week will make you fit and keep you well. Excellent for the Complexion. An ideal Aperient. Of all Chemists, or The Vitaregis Water Co., 39, Aldermanbury, E.C., price 1s. 3d. per large bottle.—[ADVT.]

Glasgow.—Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road.
The Glasgow Council met on Thursday, October 2, to discuss business. It was decided to hold a Cake and Candy Sale, at which it is hoped that all members will help either by sending contributions or by bringing their friends to buy. The date of the sale will be advertised later in "Forthcoming Events" in THE VOTE. Miss White and Miss Findlay were appointed conveners of the hall, which has been taken by the Branch at the Exhibition of Women's Work in Glasgow beginning December 1. On the same evening the Branch meeting was held in the Shop. Mrs. Gatty gave an interesting address on the relation between women's wages and the social evil, illustrating her point with examples of the wages paid to shop assistants. The resolution passed on the Glasgow scandal case will be found on page 382. Several announcements were made, including the Fancy Dress Party on October 16, and the Jumble Sale on November 1. Will all members and friends who have anything to send to the latter please write to the Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road, and a van will be sent to collect the goods? For other announcements see "Forthcoming Events."

Paisley.
Our sincere thanks are due to Miss Eunice Murray for the pleasant time we spent together on Wednesday night. After tea, which Miss Murray had kindly provided for members and friends, we had a public meeting in Lesser Central Hall, over which Rev. Walter Spencer very kindly and ably presided. Mr. Spencer spoke about the progress of the Paisley Branch of the Women's Freedom League. He said he had watched the Branch since it started about a year ago, and was delighted with the enthusiasm of the members, even in spite of some disappointments. Miss Murray then gave a very interesting history of the Woman's Movement, also about her recent visit to Budapest. The resolution demanding a Government measure, enfranchising women on equal terms with men, was carried unanimously. THE VOTE was sold out, and Suffrage literature and badges were in great demand. Eight new members were added to our Branch. A lady who had come as a delegate from the Co-operative Guild said after the meeting that she had come an Anti-Suffragist, but was going away a fully convinced Suffragist. Many thanks to all who helped to make the meeting a success.

NOTE.—For addresses of Branch Secretaries apply to Headquarters, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

W.F.L. logo with text 'VOTES FOR WOMEN' and 'DARE TO BE FREE.'

Clark. Admission free. Thurs. Oct. 16.—CROYDON OFFICE, 32A, The Arcade, 3.30 p.m. "At Home." Speaker: Mrs. Duncan Harris HARROW, Kynance, Nibthwaite-road, Work Party, 2 p.m. Speech by Mrs. E. M. N. Clark, 3 p.m. Fri., Oct. 17.—MORLAND-ROAD, CROYDON, 7.30. Miss Eunice Murray. Sun., Oct. 19.—HYDE PARK, noon. Miss Nina Boyle and Mrs. Hyde. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Eunice Murray. Mon., Oct. 20.—Caxton Hall, 8 p.m. Lecture by Laurence Housman, Esq., on "Petticoat Government." Chair: Miss Eunice Murray. Admission by ticket, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., from W.F.L. Office. Discussion invited. Wed., Oct. 22.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. Miss Eunice Murray and Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Tanner. Admission free. Thurs., Oct. 23.—CROYDON OFFICE, 32A, The Arcade, 3.30 p.m. "At Home." Speaker: Rev. W. Moritz Weston. HARROW, Work Party, 2 p.m. Fri., Oct. 24.—MORLAND-ROAD, CROYDON, 7.30. Mrs. Mustard. Sun., Oct. 26.—HYDE PARK, noon. Miss Eunice Murray. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Nina Boyle. Wed., Oct. 29.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Nevinston, L.L.A., "Recent Legislation for Women," and Mrs. Despard. Chair: Mrs. Hyde. Admission free. Fri., Oct. 31.—CAXTON HALL, Special Political Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Holmes, Miss Eunice Murray, Miss Nina Boyle. Tues., Nov. 4.—Dramatic Version of "Hiawatha," by K. Harvey (in aid of "The Vote"), Cripplegate Institute, two minutes' walk from Aldersgate-street Station (Metropolitan Railway), 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. Wed., Nov. 5.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, "The Child in Hungary." Admission free. Mon., Nov. 10.—BOWES PARK, Miss Eunice Murray and Miss Nina Boyle. Sun., Nov. 16.—CAXTON HALL, "At Home," 3.30-5 p.m. Members and friends cordially invited. Tea, music, short speeches.

PROVINCES.

Fri., Oct. 10.—Southsea, near All Saints' Church, 7.45 p.m., Open-air Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Taplin. Mon., Oct. 13.—Middlesbrough, Hinton Café, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Miss Eunice Murray. Tues., Oct. 14.—West Hartlepool, Hussey's Café, 3 p.m., "At Home." Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray. Church-square, 7.30 p.m., Open-air Meeting. Miss Eunice Murray, Liverpool, Waterloo, Olive Hall, 8 p.m. Public Meeting. Miss Nina Boyle. Wed., Oct. 15.—South Shields. Miss Eunice Murray. Liverpool. Aintree Institute, 8 p.m., Public Meeting. Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Mr. George Nelson, C.C. Manchester, Clarion Café, 8 p.m., Lecture on "Humour in Irish Poetry," by Mrs. Duncan. Music by Mrs. Pearce. Chair: Miss Andrews (London). Sat., Oct. 18.—Middlesbrough Jumble Sale, Manchester, 45, Sidney-street, 3 p.m., Jumble Sale. Wed., Oct. 22.—Southsea, "Derrynane," Aston-road, 7.30 p.m. prompt, Whist Drive. Tickets 1s. each. Manchester, 46A, Market-street, Branch Meeting. Miss Andrews. Thurs., Oct. 23.—Grays, Miss Nina Boyle. Tues., Oct. 28.—Manchester, Gaskell Hall, Longsight, Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Andrews and Miss Nina Boyle. Chair: Miss Neal. Mon., Nov. 10.—Middlesbrough. Annual Meeting. Wed., Nov. 12.—Liverpool, Aintree Institute, 8 p.m., Public Meeting. Mrs. Despard. Chair: Mr. John Edwards. Fri., Nov. 14.—Manchester, Clarion Café, combined Meeting of Branches. Speaker: Mrs. Despard.

SCOTLAND.

Wed., Oct. 15.—Edinburgh, 90, Lothian-road, 8 p.m., Branch Meeting. Thurs., Oct. 16.—Glasgow, 70, St. George's-road, Fancy Dress Party (ladies only). Tickets, Fancy Dress, 2s. 6d., and Evening Dress, 3s. Sat., Oct. 18.—Edinburgh, Mound, 3 p.m., Open-air Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. 99, Lothian-road, 7 p.m., Whist Drive. Tickets 1s. 6d. Hostess: Mrs. Wilson. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. Mon., Oct. 20.—Dundee. Mrs. Despard. Tues., Oct. 21.—Glasgow, Philosophical Society's Rooms, 207, Bath-street, Public Meeting. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Jack. Sat., Nov. 1.—Glasgow, 70, St. George's-road, Jumble Sale. Thurs., Nov. 6.—Dunfermline, Y.M.C.A. Rooms, 8 p.m., Branch Meeting.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Sun., Oct. 12.—KINGSTON HUMANITARIAN SOCIETY, Fife Hall, Fife-road, 7 p.m. Miss Andrews (W.F.L.) on "The Power of Thought." Wed., Oct. 15.—WOMEN WRITERS' SUFFRAGE LEAGUE. Meeting, 16, John-street, Adelphi, 3.30 p.m. Dr. Marie Stopes, F.L.S., and Mrs. Kineton Parkes on "Tax Resistance." Admission free; tea 6d. Thurs., Oct. 23.—NORTH HACKNEY CONSERVATIVE CLUB, 120,

Stamford-hill, N., 8 p.m., Debate on "Women's Suffrage." For: Mrs. Mustard W.F.L.; Against: Member N.L.O.W.S. Mon., Oct. 27.—MACCLESFIELD, Town Hall, N.U. Meeting. Speaker: Miss Nina Boyle. Tues., Oct. 28.—WESLEY GUILD, New North-road Chapel, N., 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard (W.F.L.) on "Woman as Helpmate."

WOMEN'S TAX RESISTANCE LEAGUE.

The monthly meeting was held on Thursday, October 2, in the offices of the League. Miss Metcalfe, ex-H.M.L., presided, and Mrs. Kineton Parkes gave an address on "Six Weeks in Ireland," in the course of which she said that Irish people as a whole were in a receptive attitude towards speeches on Women's Suffrage, but that the strong racial and political feelings made suffrage propaganda a more complicated process than in England. At the conclusion of the meeting a unanimous resolution of sympathy and admiration for Mrs. Harvey was passed, coupled with a wish for her speedy recovery to health. On October 4 the League took part with other societies in the New Constitutional Demonstration on Tower-hill, and Mrs. Kineton Parkes was the speaker to represent it.

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Mr. LAURENCE HOUSMAN Will Lecture on "Petticoat Government," MONDAY, OCTOBER 20th, 8 p.m., At CAXTON HALL, Westminster. Chair: Miss EUNICE MURRAY. Discussion. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., from W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C., and at doors on night of Lecture.

The Women's Freedom League HOLDS PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CAXTON HALL Every Wednesday Afternoon at 3.30. SPEAKERS, OCTOBER 15th— Mrs. NOTT BOWER on "Heroines of the French Revolution." Mrs. MARION HOLMES, on "The Political Situation." Chair - - - Mrs. E. M. N. CLARK. ADMISSION FREE.

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"HIAWATHA."

(DRAMATISED BY MRS. K. HARVEY.) A DRAMATIC REPRESENTATION OF Longfellow's famous Poem, "HIAWATHA," WILL BE GIVEN AT Cripplegate Institute, On TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4th, 1913, AT 8 AND 8 P.M.

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NOTICE. Change of Address. The International Suffrage Shop

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AN APPEAL.

"THE VOTE" ADVERTISEMENT DEPARTMENT Extract from the Report of the Directors.) AN examination of the details of the Trading Account has shown that a fairly creditable average has been maintained in the Advertisement Department, but in order that the accounts may be held and increased, it is necessary that the Advertisers shall be well patronised, and the Directors appeal to all members to support those firms who support the paper, to regard the Advertiser not merely as an ordinary trader knocking at the door of the consumer, but as one of the most important factors in building up "THE VOTE."

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