

# VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

No. 26.

SEPTEMBER 3, 1908.

Price 1d. Weekly. (Post Free.)

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Articles and news contributed for insertion in "Votes for Women" should be sent to the Editors at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper. The Editors cannot hold themselves in any way responsible for the return of unused manuscripts, though they will endeavour as far as possible to return them when requested where stamps for postage are enclosed.

Subscriptions to the paper should be sent to The Publisher, "Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

The terms are 6s. 6d. annual subscription, 1s. 8d. for one quarter, post free, payable in advance.

The paper can also be obtained from all newsagents and bookstalls.

For quotations for advertisements, apply to the Advertisement Manager, "Votes for Women," 4, Clements Inn, Strand, W.C.

## 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 holidays over, the agitation for the vote starts upon the autumn campaign with renewed vigour, and with the assurance that within the course of a few months the question will take a still more prominent position in British politics than ever before. The Women's Social and Political Union are making active preparations for the campaign in London and throughout the provinces. In the metropolis the series of weekly "At Homes" com-

mences to-night at the Portman Rooms, and will be carried on on Monday afternoons and Thursday evenings throughout the whole year. In Bristol, under the leadership of Miss Annie Kenney, similar meetings have already commenced. In Manchester an active centre is being organised by Miss Mary Gawthorpe, and in Bradford and Birmingham Miss Adela Pankhurst and Miss Keevil are conducting vigorous and effective campaigns.

### The Case of Daisy Lord.

The tragic story of Daisy Lord is at last attracting public attention, and there is some hope that the cruel and vindictive sentence passed upon this unhappy girl will be reversed at the demand of the people of the country. As long ago as July 23 we called attention to this case, and it is largely through the active intervention of one of the members of the N.W.S.P.U.—Mrs. Kerwood, of Birmingham—who has spared neither time nor means to bring this case before the notice of the public, that there is now some hope that the Home Office may be induced to move in the matter. On page 420 of this issue we print a further letter from Mrs. Kerwood, together with extracts from the *Evening Standard* and the *Daily News*, relating to the case, the tragic facts of which may well excite public sympathy. The petition can be signed at the Reformers' Press, 4, Clements Inn, where this paper is published, and further copies can be obtained from Mr. Cudby, as directed by Mrs. Kerwood in her letter.

### A Woman's Question.

That the full rigour of the law, whether the original sentence of death or the still horrible punishment of penal servitude for life, should be inflicted upon a girl whose act was committed under the terrible nervous and physical prostration of childbirth is one of those crimes of the community against which women have protested in vain so long. Nor is it possible for men—even the most sensitive—to appreciate fully the horror which these sentences produce upon the minds of women. This punishment decreed by the State for the crime committed by Daisy Lord is an inherent part of the system of man-made justice, which fails to achieve its purpose just because it is made by only one-half of the human race, and for that reason fails to be well balanced and in accord with the whole dictates of human nature.

### The Needed Reform.

We welcome gladly the acknowledgment of this fact afforded by these two leading articles in the *Evening Standard* and the *Daily News*, and in asking our readers to support the petition in favour of the reprieve of Daisy Lord, we would specially point out to them that this is no isolated case, that it is one of a series of such cases which have happened in various parts of the country, and for which women are even now suffering long and hopeless terms of imprisonment; and further, that it is only one of the many defects of man-made law, which can never be rectified until women possess the only instrument available—a Parliamentary vote. We would urge upon them, therefore, to press home upon the public mind, in season and out of season, the absolute, vital necessity of winning this reform, not at some future distant date, but at the very earliest opportunity before this year, 1908, has come to a close.



## THE FIGHTING WOMAN.

By EVELYN SHARP.

Every good suffragist must be heartily tired of being told that she cannot fight. Any reasonable person would suppose that a sufficient answer to this cliché of the anti-suffragist could be found in a simple statement of what women can do while men go to war. But our opponents do not seem to be reasonable persons. They do not listen when we prove that, as mothers, nurses, and industrial workers, we provide the soldiers, mend them up when they are hurt, and keep the home going in their absence. They do not listen when we point out the superiority of moral over physical force. They merely reiterate with dreary monotony that we cannot fight; and since they persist in assuming this physical unfitness of woman to exercise the franchise, though they have never troubled to prove the present physical fitness of man to exercise it, I do feel that the time has come for every woman with a spark of spirit in her to turn round and say: "Valiant brothers, women can fight, if there is any reason for them to do so!"

A good many of the arguments of the opposition would be disposed of, if boys were taught more history at school. These braggart opponents of ours, who appear to base their own political freedom on their ability to hold the polling booth like a fortress against an imaginary enemy, have surely forgotten the great fighting women of the past to whom they possibly owe some of the courage and muscle that now qualify them, on their own showing, for the franchise. Perhaps, if the blood of those old warrior women did not run in their veins, they too might not be strong enough and brave enough to cast a vote once in seven years to-day. For we do not go to the other extreme and claim that women alone have inherited the great fighting qualities of our ancestors—these Norse and Celtic women who went to battle with the men as a matter of course; though it is only fair to remember, perhaps, that people who have not learnt much history may never have heard of Sciattiach Buanand, the Gaelic woman who presided over the early Scottish military academy where Cuculainn and other Irish heroes learned to fight, and were not ashamed to owe their military training to a woman.

It was not only in those early days, though, that women showed military prowess. One need not mention such instances as Joan of Arc, Black Agnes, Lady Lisle, &c. Their names are so well known that, in a sense, they have lost their influence on modern thought. Posterity, too, has a way of belittling the average woman of the past by saying that the great women were exceptions. So it is more important to show that the average woman also fought in those days, if she had a good reason for doing so. It was not only men who went to the Crusades, for instance. Women also wore the sign of the Cross, burning it on their breasts and arms; women also put on armour and rode to the Holy Land, both in the second and the third Crusade. These were not exceptional women; their names have not come down to us; their leader—for they constituted a troop by themselves—was merely known as the golden-footed lady, on account of her gilt spurs and boots. The fact that their enterprise caused no more sensation than it did at the time is surely a proof that in those days people did not go about saying that women could not fight. It was well known that they could, if they had to.

Nearer to our own day lived Mademoiselle de Montpensier, cousin to Louis XIV.—"la Grande Mademoiselle" as she was called. It was she who had the courage, in spite of her royal connections, to take the

people's side in the Fronde, and to fight for the great Condé, whom Mazarin once compared to Cromwell. So influential was her action that Mazarin even offered her the King as a husband, if she would keep her father, the Duke of Orleans, from joining Condé. It is pleasing to a suffragist to read that she rejected this bribe with scorn, and prevailed upon her father instead to open the gates of Paris to the rebel army. She also went to Broussel, commandant of the Bastille, and upon his refusal to fire the cannon upon the royal army, she headed the match and applied it herself, a daring act that, says the historian, spread consternation among the royalists, and enabled Condé to enter Paris victorious.

A deed still more characteristic of this forerunner of the modern militant suffragist was her masterly entry into Orleans, which was then endeavouring to remain neutral. With two *maréchaux de camp*, the Countesses of Fiesque and Frontignac, she headed a small escort of troops, and, wearing a helmet and a sword, rode *en amazone* to the gates of Orleans. Here she found a detachment of the royal army, also demanding admittance. While the town council was hesitating between the two applicants, the "Grande Mademoiselle" rode round the walls, was shown a weak spot in them by some admiring workmen, made a breach, and entered the town. Her eloquence at once turned the tide in favour of the Frondeurs, and the royal envoys were sent away. After that she assisted at all the councils of war, and is said on one occasion to have remarked:—"Lorsqu'on a le bon sens avec du courage, il n'y a point de dame qui ne commandât bien des armées." It is significant to read further that when absolutism again prevailed for a time, and Mademoiselle and her two *maréchaux* were banished to the Château de Six Tours, they were treated honourably as political offenders, and allowed to amuse themselves by writing sketches of their contemporaries, afterwards published under the title of "Divers Portraits."

All this happened, it is true, in the great period of French history, when women like Mademoiselle de Montpensier and Madame de Sévigné were not considered unwomanly because they fought and wrote books, and men like Béchamel and Marin and Soubise were not considered unmanly because they cooked the dinner and invented dishes that have never been forgotten. But it is only necessary to turn back the pages of history in order to prove that the fighting woman has belonged to all ages and to all races. Human nature does not alter, though fashion may; and if to-morrow an invading army were to come knocking at our gates, it is not the women of England who would be backward in trying to keep it out. Happily, such occasions are still less likely to arise when women have votes and are able to raise the standard of international politics; but should our homes be in danger and defenders scarce, it is untrue to say that we should not be ready to fight side by side with those braver men who do not taunt us with physical inefficiency when we demand our political liberties.

As I began by saying, it should not be necessary to mention the fighting qualities that women hold in reserve for use only under extreme pressure. Women have far greater work to do with their votes than is implied in the making of war; work which will in the end prove war to be as absurd and childish as it is brutal and cruel. But while our opponents persist in their parrot cry about our physical weakness, it is just as well to remind them that this, too, is based upon a misconception.

## THE HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

By SYLVIA PANKHURST. XXIII.—*Double Failure in 1890.*

We saw last week that Baron Huddleston and Justice Stephen, in the Court of Queen's Bench, had decided that Lady Sandhurst's election to the London County Council was void, and we also saw that Lady Sandhurst unsuccessfully appealed against this judgment.

The chairman of the London County Council now determined to take legal advice as to the course to be adopted in regard to the seats of Miss Jane Cobden and Alderman Miss Cons. He therefore consulted Sir Horace Dawy, who replied that, though the decision in the case of Lady Sandhurst went to show that at the time of their election the two women were disqualified, yet their seats were not affected by it. On their own behalf Miss Cobden and Miss Cons also consulted various eminent legal authorities.

Miss Cobden was advised that she was liable to penalties if she tendered her resignation, and to penalties also if she sat and voted as a duly elected councillor. But it was pointed out that the Municipal Corporations Act of 1882 contained a provision that if the election of a municipal councillor had not been challenged within 12 months it should "be deemed to have been to all intents a good and valid election." In view of this provision, Miss Cobden was advised not to resign her seat but to refrain from taking up her duties upon the Council for the space of 12 months, and she was told that, if at the end of this period no appeal had been made against her election she would be as much entitled to act as a member of the London County Council as if the disability of sex had never been imposed.

Similar advice having been given also to Miss Cons, the two women decided to follow out the suggested course and to attend no Council meeting for a year's time.

The Housing Committee was, however, keenly anxious to secure the assistance of Miss Cons, and, on being specially invited to do so, she agreed to attend their meetings, including sub-committee meetings, as a visitor.

On February 11, 1890, the 12 months were up, and as no protest had been made against the election of Miss Cobden or Miss Cons they resumed their seats.

Meanwhile, the Council had shown its desire to retain the services of its women members by a petition to Parliament praying for the removal of the sex disability in County Council elections.

But there was a small minority on the other side, and Sir Walter de Souza acted as "common informer" against Miss Cobden, and sued her for five penalties of £50 each for the five votes which she had given as a member of the London County Council, although disqualified.

The case was heard in the Court of Queen's Bench on November 24, 1891. Mr. Justice Day, who presided, appears to have assumed that the women had been actuated throughout rather by a wish to defy the law than by the belief that they were acting in accordance with it, and rather by the desire to secure notoriety than to fulfil the obligations for which they had been chosen by their constituents. He said that after the decision in the case of Lady Sandhurst, Miss Cobden had been exceedingly ill advised in acting as a member of the Council. It was true that her election was valid and could not be set aside, but, nevertheless, being a woman, she was disqualified. Having thought proper to act as councillor in spite of the disqualification, she had incurred the penalties of so doing. He would not, however, impose the full penalty, but would reduce it to £25 in each of the five cases, making in all £125 and costs.

It was decided that, in spite of the different circumstances of her election, Alderman Miss Cons should be bound by this decision, and that she also should be made to pay £125. Miss Cobden appealed against the judgment, and, further, against the severity of the penalties inflicted.

In the first case she was unsuccessful, the appeal for a reversal of the judgment being dismissed. But in regard to the penalties it was decided that the fines should be reduced from £25 to 10s. for every vote, on the ground that though the law had been broken it was obscure, and that the defendant had acted from conscientious motives. Miss Cobden's fine now amounted, therefore, only to £2 10s., and that of Miss Cons was also reduced in the same way.

But though the fines had been reduced, the insult to these two public-spirited women, and through them to the womanhood of the country, remained.

It had been before decided that even though a majority of the citizens had chosen her to represent them, a woman was "not fit" to serve upon a County Council. But the latest decision meant that of all the disqualifications that existed, there was none so grave as that of being a woman. Well might Miss Cons write: "It is a bitter experience when one for the first time fully realises that even a long life spent in the service of one's fellow-citizens is powerless to blot out the disgrace and crime (in the eyes of the law) of being a woman."

As soon as it had become evident that there was little hope of proving that women were already entitled to be elected as County Councillors, efforts were made to render them eligible by securing an alteration in the law.

With this object a Bill was introduced into the House of Lords, but on May 20, four days after the hostile decision in Lady Sandhurst's Appeal, it was rejected without debate by a majority of 108 votes to 23. On June 9, 1890, the Bill was again introduced, but was opposed by the Government, and lost by 119 votes to 49. On May 26, 1891, a motion to the same effect was defeated in the House of Commons.

In regard to the Parliamentary franchise the women were equally unfortunate. We have seen that in the session of 1890 the question was again shelved.

In spite of the vast number of petitions and memorials that had been sent up to Parliament during the long struggle further attempts were now made in this direction, and among the many that were presented at this time was one from the survivors of those who had signed the first petition for women's suffrage which had been presented to the House of Commons by John Stuart Mill in 1866. This petition was similarly framed to that of 1866, but it concluded with the reminder that the arguments which it contained appealed with even greater cogency in 1890 than they had done in 1866, because during that time there had been two extensions of the franchise to men, whilst the women, many of whom had laboured with the most earnest and untiring zeal to obtain their citizenship, were still absolutely cut off from any part or lot in the government of their country.

In the summer of 1890 the early movement was again painfully recalled, for on July 18 Miss Lydia Becker, who had for so many years been the secretary of the Manchester and later also of the National Women's Suffrage Society, died without seeing the establishment of that simple measure of justice to which she had devoted the greater part of her life.

(To be continued.)



## THE CASE OF DAISY LORD.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—It is now four weeks since I commenced to take active steps in the case of Daisy Lord, feeling that our Union, whose interests I have so much at heart, should be foremost in dealing with this great question of social injustice, and should present the women's point of view which, in my opinion, represents sound common-sense rather than sentimentalism.

Since then the question has been taken up on all sides. Public interest in the case is now widespread, and I hope that, as a result, the poor girl will soon be released from prison, and given a fresh start in life, and also that the law as it now exists may be altered.

Petition forms for signatures, praying for a reduction of the life sentence on Daisy Lord, may be obtained from Chas. G. Cudby, Esq. (solicitor), Broad Court-chambers, Bow-street, London, on receipt of a stamped, addressed wrapper (which must be 12 inches long).

It has been suggested that my letter describing my interview with Daisy Lord should be reprinted, as a leaflet, for distribution, and I shall be glad to forward copies to any who will send stamped, addressed wrapper to me at address given below, stating how many they require.

Yours, &c.,

(MRS.) EDITH KERWOOD.

Watling House, Barnt Green, near Birmingham.

### "THE EVENING STANDARD," August 31.

Some days ago a wretched girl, Daisy Lord, was sentenced to death for the murder of her child. That sentence has since then been commuted to the not less terrible one—as many will think—of penal servitude for life. There is now a petition, which should assume formidable proportions, in favour of a further remission of her sentence. We desire most emphatically to associate ourselves with this plea for a more humane reconsideration of this girl's case. In its rather exceptional features it emphasises many points to which public attention may usefully be directed, and underlines certain elements of farce, folly, and injustice in our procedure which press for revision and amendment.

This unhappy girl, little more than a child, poor and ill-educated, was herself the victim of man's lust and woman's weakness. Herself a "come-by-chance," she inherited, we may suppose, a legacy of misfortune and oppression, and learned by bitter experience the meaning of illegitimacy to the products of immorality. It was not, then, surprising that she should in turn become the victim of one of those men—frequently the so-called "superiors" of the girls of whom they take advantage—who do not draw the line at seduction in the indulgence of their animal passions. The sudden temptation and lapse brought the inevitable penalty. Daisy Lord became the mother of an unwanted child. She suffered the sacred pangs of maternity in unfriended loneliness, absolutely unaided, in her own poor room. And there she destroyed with her own hands the dreadful gift of her self-styled "lover." It is not stretching charity far to suppose that she was not sane when she took her baby's life. But her crime was discovered, and man's "justice" laid its heavy hand on her. Dragged before a jury of men, after four months of imprisonment, she was convicted by them and sentenced by the Judge to hang by the neck until she was dead. It is unnecessary to harrow the feelings of readers with a picture of the mental and physical torture through which this wretched mother-murderer must have passed. The least sensitive mind can call up this picture for itself and understand how on her dulled and wretched mind there must have fallen without any great encouragement the news of her reprieve. It would be, too, beside the point to criticise the verdict or the sentence. Only one verdict was possible. Only one sentence is permitted by the existing law. Daisy Lord had undoubtedly killed her child. She was in the eyes of the law no less a murderer than any of the great criminals whose trial provides a degenerate public with a protracted sensation. What this case enforces as its moral is that the law is far too rigid in this particular matter, and that the justice on which we pride ourselves is mocked and parodied in our courts when such a case occurs. We do not for a moment plead for legal indulgences for infanticide. That is a dreadful and unnatural crime, which must be checked by the imposition of a sufficiently drastic penalty. But we should see to it that the penalty corresponds with the crime. At present our proceedings are largely farcical. It was never possible that Daisy Lord should actually be hanged. It is practically certain that her sentence of penal servitude for life would have

been still further remitted, even if no petition and no public agitation had arisen to force or to support the action of the Home Secretary. But we are forced to play on these occasions a farce which is to the protagonist the grimmest of tragedies and to justice a piece of ill-timed buffoonery. What should be done is to separate these cases of infanticide with extenuating circumstances from ordinary murder charges, and to impose for them a special penalty which would be sufficiently deterrent, and which would not excite an outburst of popular indignation in favour of the convicted criminal.

That reform should not surpass the wit of the legal mind. Another is, perhaps, more difficult but not less urgent. That is the inclusion of the father in the indictment brought against the mother. In almost every case the man is the more culpable of the two. It has been the insensate gratification of his lust which has brought the partner of his savagery within the grip of a terrible temptation. In his selfish bestiality he has assuredly been an accessory before the fact. He ought to be made responsible before the law. As it is, he goes scot-free. The murder of his child has saved him the dues of maintenance which the law can exact from him. Only his conscience remains to plague him. And that is not a weapon on which Nemesis can invariably rely.

We no more desire to exalt Daisy Lord as a martyr than we desired to aid the public to make heroes, as they have done, of persons charged with criminal offences. But we must believe that she is more deserving of pity than of reprobation. She was no more than half responsible. She has paid in full, and, already, more than in full. Let us then seize the opportunity presented by her misfortunes and remove from our man-made law reproaches to which it ought not to be subject.

### "THE DAILY NEWS," August 29.

Where is the man who brought her to this? Even if he were found the law would do nothing to him. He is held innocent before the law and before society. That the mother put the child to death saves him even the expense of contributing to its keep. It is a noticeable thing in law that, whereas a mother has no ownership of a legitimate child, she is allowed the sole possession of the illegitimate and all the shame. The man suffers nothing; the girl suffers all. Think what this girl has suffered—the horrible suspense, the growing certainty of shame, the anguish of the lonely birth, the attempts at concealment, the sickening return to work, the arrest, the long trial before a lot of men, the verdict, the black cap, the sentence to be hanged by her neck till she was dead, the days in the condemned cell, the appearance at chapel in the condemned pew, with all the other prisoners trying to catch glimpses of her through the red curtain that as a kind of mercy is stretched before the face of the woman who is going to be killed—is it not atrocious that these things should still be done in the name of justice? And now, as an act of grace, this young and unhappy creature of 21, instead of having her neck broken as strict justice demanded, is to be allowed to spend the rest of her existence in penal servitude. Where is the justice, human or divine, in such a loathsome process of barbarity? We may be told that the whole thing is only a solemn farce—that the jury and judge knew that the poor creature would not really be hanged. If it is only a solemn farce, in the name of human decency let us do away with it. But at the best the living tomb for at least 20 years remains. If that is the highest quality of mercy we can show in these cases, we ask again, where is the man? And yet Mrs. Humphry Ward and her friends in aristocratic and literary circles go about wondering why women want the vote.

### N.W.S.P.U. MEMBERS' PLEDGE CARD.

WOMEN in all parts of the country who are not as yet definitely enrolled as members of the National Women's Social and Political Union are invited to sign the members' pledge card, which they can obtain from the offices, 4, Clements Inn, and apply for membership. The pledge is as follows:—

I endorse the objects and methods of the Women's Social and Political Union, and I hereby undertake not to support the candidate of any political party at Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the Parliamentary vote.

There is an entrance fee of 1s. No definite subscription is fixed, as it is known that all members will give to the full extent of their ability to further the campaign funds of the Union.

## N.W.S.P.U. ANNOUNCEMENTS.

### The "At Homes."

After an interval of a month, the series of London "At Homes," which have been so useful in keeping in touch with many of the members of the Union, and introducing it to many others, are being recommenced. To-night (Thursday), the first of the evening "At Homes" will be held in the small Portman Rooms, Dorset-street, from 8 to 10. As this is the opening "At Home" of the season, it is hoped that a very large muster will be present, and that all the London workers of the N.W.S.P.U. who are home from their holidays will take part in the gathering. A similar "At Home" will be held every following Thursday evening.

The first of the afternoon "At Homes" will be held on Monday, September 7, at 3 o'clock, in the large Portman Rooms, Baker-street. Readers of VOTES FOR WOMEN are invited to be present, and to bring their friends and acquaintances to that gathering, remembering that not only the converted but the unconverted are always welcomed. A similar "At Home" will be held in the large Portman Rooms every Monday during September, and, commencing with Monday, October 5, these gatherings will be transferred to the large Queen's Hall, Langham-place.

### The Demonstrations.

The next demonstration to take place will be at Rawtenstall next Sunday (September 6). This will be followed on Saturday, September 19, by a special demonstration on Durdham Down, Clifton (Bristol), and on Sunday, September 27, there will be a similar demonstration at Huddersfield. Additional workers are much needed, and anyone willing to help should communicate with the local organisers, or with Miss Christabel Pankhurst, 4, Clements Inn, without delay.

### The Release of the Prisoners.

Arrangements are being completed for Wednesday, September 16, when four of the prisoners still in Holloway for taking part in the demonstration on June 30 will be released. These are Miss Haig, Miss Joachim, Miss Howey, and Miss Wentworth. These women, who have suffered the longest sentence yet inflicted on account of the agitation, will be met at the prison gates at 8 a.m., and will be provided with a carriage, in which they will be drawn by a "Suffragette team" to Queen's Hall.

A number of names have already been sent in of those desirous of claiming the privilege of drawing the carriage, and others should communicate at once with Mrs. Drummond, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., as it is likely that the numbers will be far in excess of the places available. We may say that very little physical effort is required, the work being evenly distributed among a large number. All those assisting are asked to wear white dresses and, if possible, hats in the colours, with "Votes for Women" scarves or regalia.

The other men and women joining in the procession will, it is hoped, walk behind the carriage, but for the convenience of those unable to walk the whole distance—about two and a-half miles—brakes will be provided. Tickets, 9d. each, can be obtained of the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. One of the large banners will be used in the procession, and gifts of flowers are asked for the ex-prisoners' bouquets, as well as for decorating the carriage. These must be in the colours of the N.W.S.P.U., with ample foliage; and as purple heather is both suitable and lasting, any quantity of this may be sent. The autumn flowers lend themselves well to the N.W.S.P.U. scheme of colour, and purple and white asters, dahlias, chrysanthemums, &c., are all suitable for the purpose. Flowers sent by post must reach Mrs. Drummond, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., not later than the six o'clock post on Tuesday, September 15, or as much before that time as convenient, as the start from Clements Inn on Wednesday morning is early, and some of the decorating will be effected on Tuesday afternoon. Any flowers left over will be used for table decorations at Queen's Hall.

### The Breakfast.

At Queen's Hall a special complimentary breakfast for the prisoners will be held. Tickets, price 2s. each, should be obtained from the ticket secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. As it is essential that the exact number of those who intend to take breakfast should be known beforehand, tickets should be taken as early as possible, as otherwise accommodation cannot be guaranteed.

The procession is expected to arrive at Queen's Hall at 9.15, and all unable to take part in it should be in the Hall to receive the ex-prisoners at that time.

Mrs. Pankhurst will be in the chair at the breakfast, and speeches will be delivered by the ex-prisoners and others.

After the breakfast the procession will be re-formed, and the prisoners will be drawn in their carriage by the Suffragette team to Clements Inn. It is hoped that all those present at the breakfast will accompany the carriage. As this release will be a historic event, owing both to the length of sentence served by the women and the striking nature of the welcome which will be given to them, no member of the N.W.S.P.U. should lose the opportunity of being present and of bringing her friends to take part.

### "Votes for Women" Newspaper en route.

Volunteers are wanted to sell VOTES FOR WOMEN on the way from Holloway to Queen's Hall. White dresses and hats should, if possible, be worn, with "Votes for Women" scarves or regalia. Special efforts are being made to extend a knowledge of the weekly organ of the movement, and it is felt that such demonstrations as those of September 16 and 18 are fitting opportunities for selling in the street as many copies as possible. Names of those willing to help in this way should be sent in at once to Mrs. Drummond, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

### Release of Miss Phillips.

Miss Mary Phillips, who has forfeited two days of the remission allowed to all prisoners of good behaviour owing to a slight infringement of prison discipline, will be released on Friday morning, September 18, and arrangements are being made to welcome her at the prison gates that morning, particulars of which will be announced later.

### Reception for ex-Prisoners.

A special Reception has been arranged to take place on Friday, September 18, in the large Portman Rooms, Baker-street, when it is hoped that all the prisoners recently released from Holloway will be present. All members and friends are asked to make a point of attending, when those unable to be present at the complimentary breakfasts will have an opportunity of welcoming the released prisoners, and of meeting other friends after the summer holidays.

### Albert Hall Meeting.

A great meeting is to be held in the Albert Hall, on Thursday, October 29. Mrs. Pankhurst will be in the chair, and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, and Miss Mary Gawthorpe will address the meeting. Tickets are on sale:—Amphitheatre stalls, 5s.; arena, 2s. 6d.; balcony and orchestra, 1s.; gallery and upper orchestra (unnumbered), 6d.; and boxes at various prices, can be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, National W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn Strand, W.C. Application should be made early for tickets.

### Photographs of the Release on August 22.

The Woman's Press is able to offer for sale photographs of the release of the prisoners, of the drawing of the carriage to Queen's Hall, and of the breakfast, on August 22. One of these is shown in the illustration which we reproduced on page 404 of the issue of August 27. The photographs (unmounted) can be ordered from the Woman's Press, prices 1s. 3d. for the size measuring 12 inches by 10 inches, and 9d. for the size measuring 8½ inches by 6¼ inches. Copies, for which orders can be made, can be seen at the offices of the N.W.S.P.U.



## OUR POST BOX.

POLITICAL PRISONERS IN ENGLAND AND IN RUSSIA.  
To the Editor of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—I have been a very careful observer of the movements of the militant champions of Votes for Women from the first.

I have been present at, and taken notes of, all their processions and popular demonstrations, and I have attended in the police-courts at their trials, and observed with loathing the extraordinary truculence of the prosecution. I never have been able to discover any cause except the vanity of politicians like Asquith, Churchill, and Gladstone for the outrageous severity of the treatment of the Suffragettes.

I saw the public proceedings of the Suffragettes, not one of them committed any offence which would justify more than being discharged with a caution except in two cases. I saw them in the "Black Maria." Of course, I did not witness their treatment in Holloway, but I have had hearsay evidence that it was disgraceful to the last degree. I was beside some ladies who were arrested, and in no sense were they more disorderly than myself. The police admitted this to me. I won't trouble you further than by sending you an extract from the *Morning Post* of this date, which reads as follows:—

## Russian Ex-Deputies' Prison Life.

The Deputies were not wholly cut off from the outer world. They were allowed to receive letters, and one received as many as 300. The prison authorities took great care that they should hold no communication with each other, and they were not allowed to take their daily walk of 20 minutes in company. But they sometimes met in the corridors, and by means of a system of knocks were often able to spell out to each other short sentences of greeting. Messages passed, too, through their relatives, whom during the last month of their imprisonment the Deputies were allowed to see, through a grating and in the presence of a gendarme, once a week. Then there were books and writing materials in sufficiency. Some of the Deputies drew up a plan of study and rigidly carried it out. One professor devoted the half of every morning to writing and the other half to the study of German works of jurisprudence. In the afternoon he refreshed himself with *Vandal's "L'Avenement de Bonaparte,"* and towards evening returned to his Germans. Another Deputy drafted a series of Bills. Another wrote dissertations on pisciculture. A former priest, unfrocked for Liberalism, diligently studied law with the object of entering the legal profession. A retired Artillery officer, who had fought in Manchuria, worked at the theory of agriculture. A book-keeper, who had been so hard-worked and ill-paid during the last two years that, as he said, he had "got behind in literature," was thankful to be able to read as long as light lasted. Others set themselves no task, worked when they felt the impulse, and tranquilly lived the prison life. By common consent the Deputies kept themselves in form by practising indoor gymnastics on a Danish system. Nearly all the warders were very respectful and attentive.

Compare the treatment of Russian political prisoners in the gaol by the Neva with that of Suffragettes in London, and then answer this question:—Wherein doth the vaunted superiority of the "Liberal" Government of England consist?

Yours, &amp;c.,

T. MILLER MAGUIRE.

2, Pump-court, Temple, E.C., August 29, 1908.

## THE VALUE OF THE BADGE.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—One afternoon, in the Queen's Hall, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence impressed upon the members the importance of always wearing our badge. My daughter and I have just returned from a month's holiday in the Lake District. We wore our badge *always*, indoors and out, and by its means were able to do a great deal of good work for our cause. It opened conversations in all sorts of places—in trains, on coaches, in shops, and, above all, among our fellow visitors in the hotels. We were able to tell many people about our cause, its aims, and objects; to explain many difficulties, and correct erroneous impressions which people outside our movement have gathered from the Press. We sold copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN, pamphlets, postcards, and badges, and found friends in many and various places. One young American lady was delighted to be able to return to her home in Massachusetts and tell her people that she had seen two real Suffragettes, and take with her a copy of our paper and various postcards.

One incident (among many) will perhaps interest our members. One morning I went with a friend to the top of a very high hill near Keswick. Just as we were leaving, after a short rest, two ladies came up. We exchanged a few words about the lovely view, and then they noticed my badge. They immediately shook hands most heartily, and asked me many questions, saying that they were most anxious to know more about our movement. I told them as much as I could in a short time. They paid me there and then for some badges (which I have since sent them), and promised to become subscribers to VOTES FOR WOMEN, and I feel sure that they will become members of the N.W.S.P.U. Several other people whom I have met have promised to take our paper regularly, and will soon become members. The wearing of the badge has given us a great deal of pleasure and profit, and I hope many other members have experienced the same.

Yours, &amp;c.,

J. A. EAST.

Chiswick.

## ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Questions intended for answer in this column should be addressed to the Editors "Votes for Women," and specially marked "Answers to Correspondents." They must be accompanied by name and address of the sender, and should be questions relating directly to Woman Suffrage or to the policy of the N.W.S.P.U.

35. (1) *Mrs. Humphry Ward*, in "The Nineteenth Century" for August, quotes *Mrs. Pankhurst* as saying that the Act for the Registration of Midwives was passed by men without consulting women. Did *Mrs. Pankhurst* say this?

(2) *Mrs. Ward* also says, as a reason for withholding the Parliamentary vote from women, that they do not use the municipal vote, which shows that they are not naturally voters. Is this the case?

(3) She also declares that the cause of Woman Suffrage is declining in America, quoting Oregon as having vetoed the question by a large majority. Is the cause declining?

35 (1) Possibly the reference is to a sentence in a speech by *Mrs. Pankhurst* at the Portman Rooms, on March 24, 1908, afterwards published by the Woman's Press in pamphlet form, price 1d., but, if so, the words have been taken from their context. The Midwives Registration Bill is a striking instance of legislation affecting women which would have been carried through much more quickly, and with much more satisfactory results, if women had had the Parliamentary vote. The Bill was shelved repeatedly, those medical men who opposed it using their voting power to prevent their members from voting for it in the House of Commons. It took 12 years to pass the measure, which could easily have been passed in two, and to this day the midwives have no direct representation on the Central Midwives' Board.

(2) When it suits either party to recognise the force of women's municipal votes they do so. In a letter to a contemporary Liberal review the writer implies that the women voters helped to return the L.C.C. candidate of whom he and his party disapprove. But, since the ballot is secret, it is impossible for statements of this nature to be put to any test.

(3) The statement was controverted by the Rev. *Anna Shaw*, of Philadelphia, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, in a letter to the *Times*. She says that not only is the paid membership of the National American Woman Suffrage Association larger than at any time in its history, but that it has the endorsement of over 500 organisations, comprising several with a membership of hundreds of thousands. With regard to Oregon, *Mrs. Shaw* says that the State Liquor Dealers' Association sent to the 2,000 retail dealers in the State an appeal demanding that each of them should pledge to secure 25 votes in order to secure the 50,000 votes necessary to defeat the Woman Suffrage amendment, so that the liquor business might continue in the State. The amendment, *Mrs. Shaw* adds, was defeated by "the same powers that have opposed every step of women's enfranchisement from the beginning of the movement in the United States, and these are combined avarice and vice."

The leaders of the Suffragists are like the Athenians, always seeking some new thing. In the ingenuity of their tactics, they might vie with great cavalry generals. If it were as true in politics as in war that surprise means success, women might have had the vote months ago.—*Daily Telegraph*.

## PROGRESS OF WOMEN.

## A Deed of Heroism.

Under circumstances unsurpassed in the history of heroic actions, a woman telephone operator has just laid down her life. The name of *Mrs. Sarah Rooke*, of Folsom, New Mexico, deserves to be recorded in some future book of golden deeds, in which the heroines shall be those women in the everyday walks of life who have been ready, when the crisis came, to sacrifice themselves for their fellows. There are many such, but in the case in question the calamity from which at least forty families were given, through *Mrs. Rooke's* heroism, an opportunity of escape, was a peculiarly terrible one. As reported in the newspapers of Saturday, the town of Folsom, a mining post-town of 250 inhabitants, was visited by a cloudburst, from the effects of which resulted great loss of life and property. Later reports tell the story of how *Mrs. Rooke*, warned from a neighbouring exchange of the approaching wall of water, which was sweeping everything before it, stuck to her post, ringing up subscriber after subscriber, warning them to fly for their lives to the hills from the advancing flood. With time to escape to a place of safety, she chose to die at her post; the telephone exchange was entirely destroyed and swept away, and on Saturday *Mrs. Rooke's* body was found twelve miles from the town, mutilated and covered with the debris carried down by the flood. The telephone receiver was still fixed to her head, and was the means by which she was identified.

## The Future of Belfast University.

The official reports of the Queen's Colleges of Belfast, Cork, and Galway have just been issued. Speaking of the women students at Belfast, the president of the college, the Rev. D. Hamilton, writes as follows:—"Lady students are evidently going to be in the future a prominent and important feature of our academic life. I am sincerely glad to believe that this is to be the case. Their admission to our college as students, with exactly the same rights as men, is one of the events of my presidency on which I look back with sincerest pleasure. Nothing but good has come of what was at the time looked upon by some as a bold (by not a few, a mistaken) step. It is proposed in the new University of Belfast to carry this revolution to a point not even dreamt of, for in the Charter it is intended to enact that all offices and positions in the University (from the highest to the lowest) shall be open to women. Of this proposal I entirely approve."

The number of women students at the three colleges during the past year is higher than ever before.

## Recognition of Financial Ability.

One of the reasons for opposing the extension of the franchise to women given by the opposition is that women can take no practical part in financial matters. In view of this, the news that an American woman—*Mrs. Phoebe M. Rideout*—has been elected president of a bank at Oroville, California, is particularly instructive. *Mrs. Rideout*, who succeeds her husband as president of the bank, has also been elected as president of two other banks. In California there are no fewer than 25 women officials and directors of banks.

## A Domestic Servants' Union.

Some of the domestic servants in Birmingham have decided to band together and form a servants' branch of the National Federation of Women Workers. This decision follows on a controversy concerning the life of domestic servants, which has been carried on in the Birmingham newspapers. A number of girls who had been following the controversy held a meeting,

**THELMA**  
Modiste.

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at which they passed a resolution declaring that the only way in which their condition can be improved is by combination. There are to be three classes. Class A, to which the subscription will be one penny per week, entitles members to the usual benefits of combination, and the advantages of a bureau which will enable them to investigate the characters of prospective mistresses. Classes B and C, with subscriptions of 3d. and 6d. respectively, will receive out-of-work and sick pay.

## Strike at Tooting.

The girl box-makers now on strike at Summerstown are carrying on their fight with unabated vigour and determination. As a consequence of representations made to the Board of Trade, an arbitrator—*Mr. W. B. Yates*, barrister-at-law—has been appointed. Public sympathy is strongly in favour of the girls, and the total subscriptions and collections have amounted to nearly £200. The girls' places at the factory have not been filled, and another forewoman, who has been in the employment of the company 10 years, has joined them.

## A Useful Association.

That energetic little society the Association of Shorthand Writers and Typists has just issued its fifth annual report. It appears to have made steady progress during the year, and has lately affiliated with the Civil Service Typists' Association. The report urges upon members the utility of acquiring foreign languages, as giving a much wider range of opportunity. A register of vacancies is kept at the Association's office, 8, Buckingham-street, Strand, W.C. The president is Professor *Michael E. Sadler*.

## Finland Women M.P.'s.

It is sufficient proof of Finland's satisfaction with its election of women members that it returned six more women to Parliament at the recent elections.

The results of the second election have now been reported. As will be remembered, at the last election, which took place a year ago, 19 women were elected to sit in the Finnish Parliament. This time that number has been augmented to 25. Of these 13 belong to the Social Democratic party, three to the Swedish, six to the Old Finnish, two to the Young Finnish, and one to the Agrarian party.

## A Distinction in Science.

*Miss Cullis*, a student of the London School of Medicine for Women, has obtained the degree of Doctor of Science (D.Sc.). This degree, which is one of the very highest academic distinctions to be obtained by science students in this country, has been conferred on *Miss Cullis* for her work in physiology.

## Women's Suffrage in the United States.

According to the Central News, *Dr. Eliot*, president of the Harvard University, has declared himself in favour of "the granting of the suffrage to all women who are taxpayers."

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### Constitution.

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 the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

METHODS.—The objects of the Union shall be promoted by—

1. Action entirely independent of all political parties.
2. Opposition to whatever Government is in power until such time as the franchise is granted.
3. Participation in Parliamentary Elections in opposition to the Government candidate, and independently of all other candidates.
4. Vigorous agitation upon lines justified by the position of outlawry to which women are at present condemned.
5. The organising of women all over the country to enable them to give adequate expression to their desire for political freedom.
6. Education of public opinion by all the usual methods, such as public meetings, demonstrations, debates, distribution of literature, newspaper correspondence, and deputations to public representatives.

MEMBERSHIP.—Women of all shades of political opinion who approve the objects and methods of the Union, and who are prepared to act independently of party, are eligible for membership. It must be clearly understood that no member of the Union shall support the candidate of any political party in Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the parliamentary vote.

The Women's Social and Political Union are asking for votes for women on the *same terms* as they are possessed by men.

They are not asking for the vote for every woman, but that a woman shall not be refused a vote simply because she is a woman.

The Women's Social and Political Union claim that a simple measure, giving the vote to women on these terms, shall be passed this Session.

### THE SOLIDARITY OF WOMEN.

A woman of well-known name and of high repute in the world of letters said to me the other day: "I notice a most remarkable change lately in the way in which women writers champion the work of one of their own sex, and publicly defend it against undue and unfair

criticism. We used rather to regard each other as rivals. Now, more and more we are speaking and acting as comrades of the same craft. And everywhere I go I notice this new sense of loyalty and fellowship amongst women. I put it down to the influence of your movement. You Suffragettes have awakened some subconscious pride in womanhood even in the minds of women who, knowing nothing of you at first-hand, regard you with horror. We women who are outside your agitation owe much more to you than we or you conceive of or know."

### Growing Comradeship.

I am sure that this is true. The growing comradeship of women, which is in some measure the natural outcome of the changing conditions of modern life, has received a very great impetus from our agitation for political enfranchisement, an agitation which has brought out into evidence all the latent capacities in women for organised self-sacrifice in the interests of womanhood, race, and nation.

While the wider life that is ours to-day has brought women into touch with each other, the struggle to gain freedom for women, not for our own sake individually, but in order to win dignity and development for our sex, has given us back something which history and which classic literature tell us women once possessed amongst themselves. It has given us back a sense of unity with a great racewomanhood: independent in its point of view, reliant upon its judgment, confident in its standards of value, strong in the consciousness of its ideals, and determined to reach its goal and attain its purpose. This is an immeasurably great possession.

To realise as we draw breath day by day that we are part of a sound, sane, strong womanhood, which, again, is part of a still greater humanity, gives us release from the limitations of personal life, and a sense of security and equilibrium which is both a strength and a joy.

This consciousness of the solidarity of women is breaking down personal rivalries, destroying class distinctions, and doing away with numberless suspicions and jealousies that have been fostered by the isolated lives which women have led for many past generations, limited on every side by purely personal concerns.

In this movement especially we see women losing sight of all that divides them, and remembering only the ties of common experience and common destiny which bind them together. Class distinctions, educational divergencies, political creeds, and social prejudices have all been swept away, and a great sympathy, and, above all, a new faith and a new fellowship amongst women has been generated.

In vain are efforts being made to break up our ranks by stirring up the old feelings of social and class bitterness and suspicion.

### Married Women.

"You married women are being cheated," cry our Liberal opponents. "Poor, deluded creatures, you need not think this agitation is going to do anything for you. When women get equal rights with men, many, nay, most of you, will be left out, because you do not possess the existing qualification. How will you like it when wives are the women of no importance because old maids and widows have got the vote?"

"No, we are not being cheated," the married women in this movement reply. "We are under no delusion. We are not fighting that we as individuals may have the vote, but that the womanhood of the country shall be

represented in the government of the people. We are working that our children shall have wider opportunities of development and usefulness, the girls as well as the boys."

### Propertied and Working Women.

"What about the propertied woman?" cry other opponents. "You working women are being exploited on behalf of the propertied women, who, when they are free, will use their power to keep you down."

"Oh, no," cry the working women in this movement, "we are taking our due share in working out the salvation of the womanhood of this country. We should be ashamed to allow the great victory for the political liberties of our sex to be won without us. We know that all working women will not have the vote, just as all working men do not possess a vote at the present time, though the great majority of women voters will be workers—just as the great majority of men voters are the workers of the nation. Even if that were not so, we working women should be taking part in this movement for the uplifting of our sex. As for the woman of property, we do not wish to see her excluded from her rightful liberties, which are to-day enjoyed by men of property. She is a woman, she will understand our need better than men have understood it. It is far more to our interests, and to the interest of the whole community, to establish equality of political status for the women and men of the country than to have women's point of view and women's need and women's ideals absolutely subjected to the point of view and to the needs and ideals of men."

Then to the woman who has wealth and social position our opponents say: "You are cutting your own throat by taking part in this agitation. You will lose your unique influence, your special privileges. You will not have the easy, comfortable time of it that you now have. You will lose the protection and the deference of men, and other women will consider themselves as good as you."

And the women of wealth and ease and leisure who are in our movement make answer: "We do not want any immunities and privileges when it means that our fellow-women are sweated and starved, overworked, underpaid, and humiliated to the very dust. We are not thinking of ourselves. We are ready to suffer violence, if need be, at the hands of men, and lose our much-talked-of dignity in order to protest against the terrible indignities suffered by countless miserable women who are our sisters. We are ready to forego our ease for the hardships of prison to win for them a more tolerable life."

### A Letter from a Liberal Woman.

A short while ago I received a letter from a Liberal woman, who had come to one of our meetings, and had been so stirred that she had there and then determined to leave her party and join us in our anti-Government campaign. A few days later I heard from her again. Her Liberal friends had been talking to her. The upshot of her letter was that though she was ready to leave her party and fight against the Government for the great principle of women's enfranchisement, she felt that she could not leave her Liberal principles and support an "undemocratic Bill" that would not immediately enfranchise all the wives and all the working women in the country, but would put more power into the hands of rich women, wherewith to oppress the miserable and the poor.

I was able to point out to my friend that not only had she been deceived as to the facts of the case, but that her political inexperience had been taken advantage of, and that a very old political dodge (too old now to catch politicians) had been played off upon her.

For, in the first place, the political equality of women with men, which is our demand, does not place more political power proportionally in the hands of women of property. The contrary is the case. The property vote is an extremely small one. According to the calculation of Mr. Keir Hardie, the founder of the modern Labour party in the House of Commons, at least 80 per cent. of the women possessing the present voting qualification are working women.

### An Old Dodge.

Then, in the second place, it is a very old political device of the opponents of any reform to attempt to so stretch and extend the demand as to render hopeless any chance of it being endorsed by the people of the country or passed in the House of Commons. Mr. Lloyd George pointed this out the other day in the debate upon old age pensions. The party in Opposition moved an amendment to increase the scope of the measure. No doubt his honourable friend, said the present Chancellor of the Exchequer, would like to see the Bill extended—extended out of existence: but that political device was too old to take in anybody nowadays.

Evidently it is not too old a device for Liberals to attempt to play off on women.

But my real difficulty in dealing with my friend's letter lay not in refuting the foolish and fallacious arguments with which she had been primed, but in showing her that she had not grasped the spirit of the woman's movement, and was not yet fit or ready to become a member of the Women's Social and Political Union. We do not want class bitterness or class suspicion and mistrust in our movement. It is alien to us; we cannot do with it.

The woman of position and property has as true a heart, as ready a sympathy, and as generous a spirit as any other woman. We have the same faith in her as we have in the working woman; the same, neither more nor less.

Having no political power, she has not felt yet her responsibility or her power to help. She is not politically responsible for the present state of things, and she is as politically powerless to set things right as are the sufferers of the present system themselves. When she was young she was probably full of pity, full of ardent desire to help, anxious not to waste her life in slothful ease or selfish enjoyment. But she was left uninstructed, she was shut off from all opportunity of knowing any human beings in a different class from her own; knowledge of economic and social conditions were kept away from her. Perhaps her heart became a little callous and her narrow life became somewhat selfish, just as yours or mine, my friend, would have done under similar restrictions; but she can still be touched by the realisation of the need and sorrow of others. And when she realises she will answer the call of duty, and she will seize the opportunity to help. She has proved herself well in this movement. She has made great sacrifices, quite as great as those made by working women. This struggle will educate her, as it will educate us all. For her as well as for other women we claim the inheritance of wider, more responsible, more useful, and more dignified life. She is a woman, therefore we love her. She is a woman, therefore we believe in her. She is a woman, therefore in her we have a great faith.

As women, we will work, whether we are rich or poor, old or young, clever or stupid, educated or ignorant, for the redemption of our common womanhood from subjection and ignominy, and for the representation of womanhood in the legislation that determines the fate of our children and our race.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.



## SHALL THIS COUNTRY LEAD THE WAY?

MR. ASQUITH'S OPPORTUNITY.

There are two reasons why the times in which we are now living and working will be counted as among the most important in the world's history. Firstly, women have begun to make effective resistance against political subjection; secondly, the peoples of the East are in the act of establishing the system of representative government which has hitherto been thought applicable only to the nations of the West.

There are three outstanding features in the Eastern situation. Turkey has suddenly and unexpectedly become the possessor of a constitution, the people of Persia are demanding at the point of the sword the concession of political rights, and, even more interesting to us, since we as a nation are so intimately concerned in the matter, the Egyptians are claiming "a real constitution." Some weeks ago a deputation from Egypt waited upon Sir Edward Grey to demand the early recognition of the right to some form of constitutional government under the British occupation. To this the reply was that, though the British Government sympathised with these aspirations, they could take no practical action of the kind desired. Since then, however, the Turkish revolution has occurred, and this has in two ways brought the question of constitutional government for Egypt more within the range of practical politics.

In the first place, as Sir Edward Dicey in his article in the *Nineteenth Century* points out, the Sultan of Turkey being overlord of Egypt, our Government would be in a position of extreme difficulty if he were to contend that the constitution he has granted to the whole of his Empire extends, or should extend, to his Egyptian provinces. It is hoped by the Egyptians that Turkey will adopt this course. The *Times* correspondent at Constantinople declares that the young Turkish party will be deterred by the risk of alienating the British Government from favouring the Egyptian reform movement, but M. de Belinski, formerly Turkish Chargé d'Affaires at Washington, in his account of the present position in Turkey, gives no hint of the existence of this feeling, and asserts positively that regenerated Turkey will make a strong stand in regard to Egypt.

In the second place, it is claimed that the success of the Turkish revolution has destroyed every barrier of argument against giving political rights to the Egyptians, who consider themselves to be, if only as the result of living under the British régime, at least as well qualified to exercise them as the Turks.

### Women and Egyptian Enfranchisement.

All this goes to show that the political enfranchisement of the Egyptians is probably nearer at hand than anyone had thought possible. To women it is of very special interest to notice what is the attitude of the Liberal Government, who are resisting so obstinately the claim for citizen rights made by British women, towards the Eastern reform movement. Liberal statesmen have ever been loud in their expressions of sympathy with freedom in lands other than their own, so it is not a surprise to find the present Government rejoicing at the new order of things in Turkey. The British Ambassador at Constantinople lost no time in congratulating the Sultan on having granted to his subjects those rights of representative government which the British Government deny to the women of their own country. Upon the demand for a constitution in Egypt the Liberal Government is likely to look with less favour. The matter comes closer to them, and, therefore, Mr. Asquith and his colleagues will probably think that the constitutional government which they

hail as a blessing in Turkey is rather less desirable in Egypt. Still, the important point is not what they think, but what they will do, and the women of Britain must realise that unless the votes for women agitation proceeds with increasing vigour, there is a possibility that before they are enfranchised the Liberal Government may be found assenting to the enfranchisement of the men of Egypt. Two Liberal organs are already declaring a constitution for Egypt to be not only right, but inevitable. Asks the *Nation*: "If they [the Egyptians] should claim a constitution, can we be less liberal than Abdul Hamid?" The *Daily News* declares that "if all goes well in Turkey, we cannot continue to refuse to the Egyptians Parliamentary Government. The contrast would be too damning." Nothing but sheer coercion, continues the *Daily News*, could prevent the Egyptians from claiming a constitution, "and mere coercion is morally and politically impossible. The English democracy would not tolerate it. . . . Always supposing that the constitution thrives in Turkey, it is then safe to assume that there will be a constitution in Egypt also."

### The Wave of Democracy.

It seems to be beyond doubt that the wave of democracy will ultimately cover not only the West, but the whole of the Eastern world. It is being discovered that humanity is one, that race divisions are more superficial than we thought, and that the different groups of the human family are wonderfully alike in needs and outlook. But women notice the ominous fact that this world-wide democracy may exist for the benefit of those of the male sex alone. Humanity is to be divided, it seems, into two camps—the men, who are rulers, being in the one; the women, who are subject to them, being in the other. The mother is to be held inferior to the son, the sister inferior to the brother.

Who can explain why, except in the one case of Finland, democracy has always come into the world in an imperfect form, applying to men alone? Not only does it leave women untouched by the new benefits which it brings to the nations, but it has the effect of shearing away every privilege which exceptionally fortunate women have previously enjoyed, and of reducing all women to one dead level of inferiority to men. What makes it the more strange that justice and injustice should thus come hand in hand is that no increase of human freedom has ever been won without the help of women. No fact stands out more clearly than this, that there cannot be a revolution except by the aid of women. By their own deeds, by the inspiration they have given to men, by the sacrifice they have so freely made, women have contributed to the making of every reform movement. Always have they sown the seed, yet rarely have they reaped the harvest. But for the courage and indomitable spirit of women the French Revolution could not have been achieved. In our own country women have been to the fore whenever any constitutional battle was to be fought. Yet to this day they are without the political liberties which their countrymen have enjoyed since the days of Magna Carta.

In the struggle for reform now going forward in the East we find also the inevitable. Imperfect though our knowledge is of all that preceded it, the fact has leaked out that women were intimately concerned in the Turkish revolution. They urged on the men, they have themselves taken part in spreading the belief in constitutional principles, they have cheered the victory of the cause they

served, but they are left on the day of reckoning as much outside the Constitution as we Western women are. From our own experience, we can predict what lies before them. As the new order of things becomes more firmly established, it may be slowly, yet none the less surely, the sort of sex equality which we ourselves know will become the portion of the Eastern women. It will be equality of burden, but not equality of right. More and more these women will be drawn by circumstances and by the spread of Western ideas out of their old seclusion until they have to fight the battle of life like men, but handicapped by want of political power. Eventually they will have to enter upon a struggle for fair play in the political and the industrial world. Had they been admitted now on the same terms as men to the benefits of the new Constitution, they would have escaped great hardship, and their country would have been spared the evil of women's subjection as it presents itself in Western countries at the present time.

The fitness of the Turkish women for enfranchisement can hardly be questioned. It is well known that those of the prosperous classes are highly educated, and are entirely conversant with the affairs of their own and other nations, and since they are capable of this development, there is no reason to doubt that the more humbly placed women also are intelligent and as capable as their men folk of understanding political questions.

### Looking to Great Britain.

Yet how can we be surprised that the Turks, with their traditions, should leave women disfranchised, when in Great Britain, to which they turn as the fount of constitutional wisdom, women are still in political subjection! It might well seem to them inconceivable that the women of their own country should have political liberty while British women remain voteless.

What have British women to say of the Eastern movement for constitutional liberty, which is so rapidly coming to fruition? Naturally they argue that if the men of Turkey and of Egypt, with little or no practical knowledge and experience of Parliamentary institutions, are capable of using political rights, the women of this country are far more fitted for political liberty. They have nothing to say against the enfranchisement of their fellow creatures in any part of the world, but they feel it hard, that being the rightful heirs to the constitutional liberty built up by their foremothers and forefathers, they should have that inheritance withheld, while men of other races are suddenly and almost without preparation leaping into possession of constitutional power. They notice with indignation that while their long-urged demand for enfranchisement is rejected by the Liberal Government, certain Liberals are prepared to endorse the claim for constitutional government in Egypt almost before that claim has formulated, and before it has been considered or discussed by the people and Parliament of this country. Remembering that arrest and imprisonment are freely meted out to them when they press for the enfranchisement of their sex, they hear with grim amusement the cry from Liberals that similar coercive measures would be unthinkable and destructive of this country's prestige if used against the natives of Egypt. And, lastly, British women, seeing the cloud of political subjection overhanging their sex almost throughout the world, are eager that their country shall stand for liberty at this turning-point in human history, and shall set an example to the nations by conferring political freedom upon women. Towards this ideal standard of sex equality created by Great Britain, the civilised nations would move, and to that standard they would in time attain.

Christabel Pankhurst.

### GOING THROUGH THE MILL.\*

"I seem to recall the agony of a mother parting with her little boy for the first time off to school. I see again the bustle in the hall, and feel again the breath of tragedy which stirred me gently from that remote, dim corner, directing my young eyes to it wonderingly. The contrast between the noise about me, and that silent, intense, passionate clinging—the breaking in upon it of the father's mind, absorbed in trains and time-tables, breaking in upon that sacred moment, uncomprehending, callous. Would he never see, would he never feel, what I, the child, was dimly feeling? Would he never, would he, the father, never understand what I could understand? Would the older boys never stop their discordant, jarring whoopings? Would they never cease to jeer at 'Cry-baby,' as they dubbed their little brother, striving to keep back the welling tears?"

"I remember other women of the household offering their perfunctory consolations, well drilled themselves, no doubt. 'Don't fret, he will soon be back.' 'Yes, yes, but he will never be my little boy again.' Not the same—the little boy of eight dragged from his mother's apron-strings to learn to be a man! What did it mean, this callousness and this grief, this line of demarcation between the female and the male, with the victory always and inevitably to the male?"

"I am sick of men's false canting phrases about 'the influence of good women,' 'sacred motherhood,' and the like conventional hypocries uttered only to flatter and deceive the credulous and ignorant. Contrast what they say with what they do. . . . That woman, that mother—she should have spoken; she should have threshed the whole thing out, instead of hiding her heart away in humiliation—she, the mother of the child."

"It is a picture drawn from life. Every woman has seen it. Few have realised all that it means. Women have been ruthlessly robbed of any power or any influence in the educational systems of the country. Their ideals, their conception of morality and religion have no place amongst those standards which are set before the young. The first thing a boy has to do when he goes to school is to unlearn all the moral lessons which his mother has taught him. It is not the physical separation that the mother dreads. She has the instinctive knowledge that her little son is henceforward lost to her. There will never be the same union, never the same understanding, again between her heart and his!"

"Going Through the Mill" was written some years ago by Mrs. Gerald Paget, but the book was not published until this year.

She has anticipated many of the ideas that have given such life and intensity to women's struggle for political emancipation to-day. There is the thread of a story that holds together the thoughts, suggestions, and dramatic presentations of ideas which are really a revelation of the mind of a woman profoundly stirred by the time-spirit. To Mrs. Gerald Paget the Votes for Women movement has come as the fulfilment of a dream; it has brought a consummation for which, she tells me, she had never dared to consciously and definitely hope.

Her book cannot fail to be interesting to all women, in whom a new consciousness of power has dawned.

E. P. L.

\* "Going Through the Mill," by Mrs. Gerald Paget. 5s. net. Publishers: Brown, Langham, and Co., Limited, 78, New Bond-street, W.

### One of the Prisoners Visited.

Miss Vera Wentworth, who was visited by Miss Home on Friday afternoon, is very well and cheerful. She says it is a great consolation to exercise in the prison yard wearing the colours of the N.W.S.P.U., the dress of the prisoners being green, and their sun bonnets white and purple. She is counting the days that must still elapse before she is released on September 16.

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## THE CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

### WEST OF ENGLAND.

Shop and Committee Room: 33, Queen Road (opposite Art Gallery), Clifton. Open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, our Captain, as we call Miss Kenney, went away to see other members of the committee and make plans for the autumn. We helpers were left with orders to keep the flag flying. The flag feels heavier without the inspiration Miss Kenney provides, but we haven't failed.

The Monday "At Home" was well attended, and a good collection taken. On Tuesday Miss Dallas went to Portland-square, where there are a great many factories. She met rather an unruly crowd, and found it rather difficult to obtain a hearing. She told them she was coming again every dinner-hour of the week. That the opposition was only ephemeral was easily proved next day. The factory girls have since given her splendid support, and she has had large and enthusiastic meetings. Her appeal was especially to the girls, who responded splendidly. Some of them came to our other open-air meetings on the Downs, a long distance from their homes, some to our "At Home," and some were noticed wearing the purple, green, and white. They had not been able to afford a badge, but had cut strips of silk, used in the factory, of the right colour, stitched them together, and written "Votes for Women" in blue pencil upon the white.

In addition to our regular Horse Fair meetings, I have been able to go in the dinner-hour to Wills's Imperial Tobacco Factory. Hundreds of men and girls are employed here. I had a quiet and interested audience of more than a thousand at each meeting. I am only sorry that I cannot go again, so as to get more in touch with the factory hands.

The Horse Fair meetings continue to be assemblies of the converted. The men are prepared to come to the demonstration and support us to the utmost. It has been a great joy to me going among those workmen. They are so courteous, and at the same time so determined to get to the bottom of the question. I get questions beginning with, "We have been talking among ourselves, Miss, and we want to know —."

On Wednesday we had a splendid meeting, consisting mostly of women, on the Downs. Some took membership cards, and a good deal of literature was sold. In the evening we went for the first time to Hotwells, a decidedly poor part of the city. In spite of the rain one of our best meetings was held. The men and women listened with great attention while I explained the industrial position, and Miss Dallas described the tactics. A great many copies of VOTES FOR WOMEN were sold, and one girl stopped the tram to buy one. On Thursday night on the Downs we found "our friends the enemy" there—in force, but subdued. They only raised their voices to ask a few questions. It was a tremendous meeting; there must have been several thousands present.

On Friday at the "At Home" a number of young men came anxious to debate, and the women present rose splendidly to the occasion, helping me to answer rather academic questions. On Saturday we visited Yatton, where, though quite a small village, we had a good and exceedingly pleasant meeting. On Sunday afternoon we went, in response to an invitation, to an open discussion class, and I put our case before them. I found most of the men ardent adult Suffragists. They showed great sympathy with our cause and tactics, but not enough to induce them to abandon their present position.

Next week Miss Williams and I have to return to school. We should like to feel that others would take our places, so that the numbers do not fall off. Work is so light when there are many workers, and the comradeship between us has been so delightful we would like others to experience it also. Neither do we like to think that Miss Kenney will be left single-handed. She will do the work, helpers or no helpers, and the busiest time is yet to come. Is there no one to take our places?

"At Home" cards for September 21 at the Victoria Rooms, when Mrs. Pankhurst will speak, can be obtained from 78, Alma-road, Clifton, Bristol. The tickets for the Colston Hall will be sold on that day, 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.

I have been asked to make an appeal for money. The rest of the band has been contributed, but still there is needed £7 to pay for the hire of the Victoria Rooms. Will seven more people please contribute £1 each?

We have to acknowledge this week £20 from a friend preferring to remain anonymous; £10 for the band from another friend; 10s. from a Somersetshire woman; 2s. 6d. from Miss Rodway; 6s. from Miss Allen-Browne; £1 for Victoria Rooms from Viscountess Harberton; and £2 11s. 8d. collected at meetings.

MILLCENT BROWNE.  
(For ANNIE KENNEY.)

### LANCASHIRE.

A Manchester paper says that "the smouldering fire of the Suffragist agitation has broken out afresh," which means, of course, that the N.W.S.P.U. is now once more pursuing the even tenour of its way. The holiday season for the great majority is over, and the earnest Suffragist is everywhere hard at work furthering the ambitious plans for the forthcoming autumn and winter. It is now settled that the great Manchester demonstration shall take place in the Free Trade Hall on the evening of Wednesday, November 25. We are sanguine that Suffragist Manchester will come out in its thousands on that night to do honour to Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who will be with us then. Everything we attempt henceforth will lead up to this, and our programme presents an imposing array of regular "At Homes," meetings, outdoor and in, public and "for women only"; also debates, discussions, and Sunday afternoon addresses by invitation.

During the week new ground has been broken up by meetings which have been held in Chorlton-cum-Hardy and in Eccles, in addition to those at better-known pitches.

The inaugural "At Home," held at the Onward Buildings, Deansgate, on Friday evening, was an unqualified success. The room was crowded, and the general earnestness was quite apparent. Miss Witherington presided over the short speeches. Miss Florence Clarkson, recently released from Holloway, received a warm welcome, and spoke excellently. She was able to speak of meeting Daisy Lord in prison, and we all felt that the only solution of the mis-judgments passed upon Daisy Lords was to win our citizenship now.

After the collection, I followed with an outline of the autumn campaign and an explanation of the "At Home" series and the benefits we hoped to gain from making them a regular institution. The bread, butter, tea, sugar, milk, and biscuits had all been begged, and it is intended to follow this plan for each successive "At Home," so that as week succeeds week there will be a balance to the Free Trade Hall fund. The first "At Home" just cleared expenses of room hire, hire of crockery, postage, and cost of invitation cards. We want to reduce expenses by begging for the provision of cups, saucers, and spoons of our own. *Who will help?* The Board Room at the Onward Buildings has been taken for each Friday evening up to November 25. We want £10 to cover the expense of the series. *Who will help?* We are hoping these offers will be forthcoming at next Friday's "At Home," and lest this should be taken as the summit of our ambition, let me say we shall be more delighted than ever if the 25-guinea cost of the Free Trade Hall is promised then, too. Twenty-five promises of a guinea will do it, or five promises of five guineas. Again I ask, *Who will help?*

We have some magnificent women in the Manchester group, practically all professional and working women of the home or the workshop. They gladly give time and labour, and are now beginning collecting activities, too. Will those who can at least give money (which, as our treasurer so often points out, is released labour) please let us have it at once to cheer us on our way? All promises sent to me at 81, Hamilton-road, Longsight, Manchester, will, on being forwarded to the hon. treasurer, be credited to the Free Trade Hall campaign.

Several of the Manchester speakers will go out to the Rosendale Valley on Sunday next, September 6, to assist Mrs. Baines, and the latter will be glad for as many other Manchester sympathisers to go out as possible. The return fare to Rawtenstall from Manchester is 2s. 8d. Will intending visitors please communicate with Mrs. Baines at 27, Schofield-road, Rawtenstall? Let us all unite in making this another great success in the series of summer open-air demonstrations.

Liverpool was quite ready for Mrs. Martel's advent on Mon-

day, and had prepared a brisk programme of events, opening with an "At Home" on Tuesday. Among other places to be visited were Birkenhead and Southport.

### Harrogate.

Although preparations are in hand, I shall not begin the short special campaign until next week-end. In the meantime, Father Bernard Vaughan has prepared the way excellently by his unwarranted attacks on the "modern woman," whom, peculiarly enough, he describes as a person who smokes, swears, drinks like men, and who shrieks from carts and mauls policemen. Poor Father Bernard! What a lot he has to learn of the movement yet! The visit ought to be very successful, as already I have four offers of active help. Introductions from members to visitors or residents in Harrogate will be welcomed. Please address as above (81, Hamilton-road, Longsight, Manchester).

MARY E. GAWTHORPE.

### YORKSHIRE.

#### AT HOMES—

Monday, 4 to 6, at Somerset Parlour, Bradford.

Tuesday, 8 to 10, at Northumberland Street Schools, Huddersfield.

Wednesday, 8 to 10, Arts Club, Blenheim-terrace, Woodhouse-lane, Leeds.

This week's "At Homes" have been well attended and successful, and many new friends have been made for the cause in all the three towns where the work is going on.

On Thursday night we held a very successful meeting in the Lockwood Baptist Schools. The audience was large and sympathetic, though I found in my work during the day that the ground was almost unbroken. On Thursday I visited 1,000 houses in Crosland Moor, and had a word or two with the women wherever possible. I do not think there were half-a-dozen suffragists in the village before our meeting, which also was a very large one. Miss Beevers took the chair, and when we had finished we were escorted to the tram-car and sent off with cheers.

In spite of the wet and windy weather, on Saturday we had a bill-distributing party, when Miss Hartland and Miss Roberts, of Bradford, and Miss Smith, of Birmingham, gave out handbills advertising our demonstration in Huddersfield on September 27.

On Sunday afternoon I spoke at the P.S.A. at Lockwood Socialist Institute, and at 8 o'clock we had a huge meeting in the Station Square.

Next week meetings have been arranged at Duckworth-lane (Bradford), Thornton Lodge (Huddersfield), and in the Mechanics' Institute, Eccleshill (Bradford), on Saturday night. On Sunday I am speaking in the Holy Family Schoolroom, Green-lane, Wortley, Leeds, and on Armley Feast Ground in the afternoon and evening.

ADELA PANKHURST.

### MIDLANDS.

The fact that the centre for the Midlands is to be established in Birmingham has given very much pleasure to all members in and round the city.

The main outlines of our autumn programme are already filled in. The most important feature is a meeting to be held in the Birmingham Town Hall on Wednesday, November 4, when the principal speaker will be Miss Christabel Pankhurst. Those who are willing to sell tickets or to help in any other way should communicate at once with me at 5, South View, Wynn-street, Birmingham. We also want help in selling VOTES FOR WOMEN every week.

A meeting will also be held in Wolverhampton in the middle of October, and one at Coventry in the middle of November.

Letters requesting that meetings shall be held in various large towns are continually arriving. A week's campaign in Shropshire is requested, and the members at Stoke-on-Trent are enthusiastic for a campaign in the Pottery towns, where much interest has already been aroused. We must start by establishing a committee room in Birmingham, where the members and workers may be able to find a centre and rallying ground. At present we are all very scattered, and much difficulty is experienced in getting the work carried out, and the idea is to concentrate our meetings and visiting on one district at a time, thoroughly breaking the ground, after which the members in that district will be able to continue the campaign, and organise themselves for progressive work. We have already some splendid speakers in our Midland centre:

Dr. Helena Jones, who is well known to our London members, also Miss Hazel, Miss Neale, Mrs. Bessie Smith, and Miss Redfern have come out during the campaign for the Hyde Park demonstration, and I am sure it will not be long before many new ones will be added to this list. For the present an "At Home" will be held at 49, Bristol-street every Monday evening at 7.30, commencing on September 7. But what we need in addition to this is someone to make it possible for us to hold an afternoon "At Home" once a week in Birmingham, as is done in London and the other large centres throughout the country. It will not be possible for the movement to grow in the complete and thorough manner we desire until a plan of this sort is started. For this funds are urgently needed. Will some member or group of members in Birmingham contribute towards the rent of a hall where such weekly "At Homes" can be held? All friends and sympathisers would then know where they could bring their friends to hear about the women's movement, and in this way fresh volunteers would join us. I ask for this very confidently, knowing the splendid way the women of Birmingham have already come forward to help our work here, and often at great personal sacrifice.

I have been able to send up to the treasurer £5 donation from a lady in Birmingham, who wishes to remain anonymous, and another donation of 6s. sent through Miss Bertha Ryland.

On Thursday evening, August 27, a meeting was held in Dudley, Miss Campion and Miss Lilian Bradburn, of Wolverhampton, accompanying me. A very good hearing was given, and many questions of a most intelligent kind were asked. We are going to hold frequent meetings in this town, as it is an important centre between Birmingham and Wolverhampton.

On Friday last I visited Bromsgrove, a town about 14 miles south-east of Birmingham, with a view to arranging a meeting there at an early date. The sun shining on the rain-cleaned streets and houses gave everything a bright, glacial look, and the thought flashed through my mind that here, perhaps, they would not understand the urgency of women's enfranchisement. I entered into conversation with a happy-faced woman with her three months' old baby in her arms. I told her my mission. She looked at me dubiously, and with some wonderment; evidently the mental picture she had formed of a suffragette and her manners required revising. I learned much from her about the conditions and discontented lives of the women in whose midst she dwelt. I endeavoured to show her how different things would be were certain laws altered, and we had some new legislation introduced. I pointed out the effect it would have on public opinion, and the attitude of men towards women generally. The expression of disapprobation gradually left her eyes, and she bade me a friendly farewell, at the same time saying: "I don't rightly understand, miss, but there is something wrong somewhere, and that's the truth."

Yes, there is something wrong somewhere, and once a woman is able to trace this radical wrongness of things to the neglect of the woman's point of view in legislation, she is entirely with us in our fight for the franchise. A woman said yesterday that she had only just come to understand women wanting the vote since she had read about the sad case of Daisy Lord in the papers.

GLADICE G. KERVIL.

### ROSSENDALE VALLEY.

Special Meetings: Sunday, September 6th.

Rawtenstall Fair Ground: Band, 3 p.m.; Meeting, 3.30. Grand Theatre: Doors open 6 p.m., chair to be taken at 7 p.m. prompt.

We have this week visited some long-standing strongholds of Liberalism, such as Bury, Accrington, Heywood, Rawtenstall, and Summerseat, and in spite of bad weather the meetings have been well attended, with good sales of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

We are using all sorts of strange devices to inform the residents of our demonstration on Sunday next. Business people display our notices, and wrap our handbills inside all parcels. We gum them on trees, lamp-posts, telegraph posts, &c., and, generally speaking, we are the chief topic for miles round.

Following on Sunday afternoon's demonstration, we shall hold forth in the Grand Theatre, Rawtenstall, when Mrs. Pankhurst will be the principal speaker, and with favourable weather we shall undoubtedly have the largest crowds ever seen in the Valley.

JENNIE BAINES.



LOCAL NOTES.

**Barnes W.S.P.U.**—We held our weekly meeting on Barnes Green on Wednesday last, when Mr. Howard, who presided, expressed the belief that women would not stop their agitation until they had the vote. Mrs. Cullen, in the course of an excellent address, called attention to the fact that, while one always heard so much about men's grievances, one never heard the woman's side. For instance, much was heard about the unemployed men, but nothing about unemployed women. The audience listened to Mrs. Cullen most attentively, and there were no interruptions. Next week Mrs. Drummond is coming, and it will be the last open-air meeting for the season.

ALICIA ROSE.

**Lewisham W.S.P.U.**—Two Sundays running we had to abandon our Blackheath meetings owing to the inclemency of the weather. It was specially disappointing last Sunday, as Mrs. Martel was to have made her first appearance at an open-air meeting in this neighbourhood, and we had made special efforts to advertise the meeting. Mrs. Martel has, however, kindly promised to speak on Blackheath on Sunday, September 20. Miss Billingham (our hon. treasurer) has succeeded in rousing considerable interest in our movement in Westcliff, where she spent her holidays. A great many ladies gave in their names and promised their help and support in the event of someone being sent there from headquarters to work up a public meeting and start a local union. I have asked Miss Naylor to be the speaker on Blackheath next Sunday.

J. A. BOUVIER

**London City Union W.S.P.U.**—In spite of the rain, we managed to have our meeting at Parliament Hill Fields on Sunday, and a very successful one it was. Mrs. Bouvier will speak for us next week, and we have decided to have the meetings at three o'clock in future, as the evenings are so short and cold now. Dr. Rose made an excellent speech, touching on the question of women's work and wages, and her remarks were greeted with many sympathetic "Hear, hears." Miss Winifred Auld tackled the "Anti-gettes," and the crowd roared and laughed as she held up their poor little arguments to ridicule, and polished them off. Fifty-four copies of the paper were sold. The people there are very friendly to the Suffragettes and their cause.

JESSIE KENNEY.

**Streatham W.S.P.U.**—On Tuesday last we had a very successful open-air meeting at the Fountain, Streatham. Miss J. Carter presided, Miss Fraser, of Croydon, and myself being the speakers. The audience listened with interest and attention in spite of the fact that the church bells were ringing at the time, and it was rather difficult to make ourselves heard. Many people who pressed into the crowd to see what was going on stopped to listen to what we had to say.

A. E. SMITH.

**Stoke-on-Trent W.S.P.U.**—A meeting of members was held at my house, Thursday, the 27th inst., to discuss the best means of informing the public that a local branch of the National Women's Social and Political Union had been started in this town. There are several gentlemen who are anxious to join, and to sign our membership card, also to give us all the assistance they possibly can, but I understand that the Union is strictly confined to women, although open to receive assistance from all sources. It was decided that we should do a street canvass in couples, and by that means inform the public that, weather permitting, an open-air meeting will be held in Wolfe-street on Thursday next, September 3, at 7.30, at which Mrs. Lawton will take the chair, and I shall speak. I may add that I have requested my family doctor to permit me to leave a copy of VOTES FOR WOMEN in his surgery, which is visited daily by a very large number of persons, and he has graciously consented to my doing so.

ADELINE REDFERN-WILDE.

**Stapleford and Long Eaton W.S.P.U.**—This week our trio, Miss D. Bullock, Miss M. Dalley, and Miss L. Dalley, visited Chilwell, a straggling village on the high-road to Nottingham. We had previously "chalked" the announcement of our meeting, and on arriving were met with the cheering news that rotten eggs were awaiting us! We took it all good-humouredly, however, and assured our informants that we should not run away for that. As events proved, there was no need, for we had a most attentive and kindly audience, and left amid invitations to "Come again soon." Some of the audience seemed to agree with Mr. John Burns as to the limitation of married women's work, but we were able to explain the Suffragette point of view on that subject, and evidently provided food for thought, if not conviction.

L. C. DALLEY.

A COTTAGE, charmingly situated in country lane at Letchworth TO LET for three months; Furnished. Living room, kitchen, and two bedrooms, bath, h. and c. water.—Apply "Dormer Cottage," Croft Lane, Norton, Herts.

IN SHAKESPEARE'S COUNTRY.

Two very successful meetings were held on Wednesday last week, one in the afternoon at Stratford-on-Avon, and the other in the evening at Welford-on-Avon. The speakers were Mrs. Burman and Miss Higgins, and the meetings were organised by Mrs. Burman as part of her holiday programme. Several brake loads of American visitors stopped their conveyances to listen to the speeches, and one elderly lady, who said she had never attended a Suffrage meeting before, declared herself in favour of the movement, and expressed warm admiration of the militant tactics. A resolution calling on the Government to immediately enfranchise the women taxpayers, and expressing sympathy with the prisoners now in Holloway, was carried, with one dissentient, who, on being asked the cause of his objection by some of the audience, gave no reason, but contented himself by saying: "They ought to have six months!"

At the Welford meeting there were many staunch supporters present. Mr. Burman took the chair, and Mrs. Burman and Miss Higgins again spoke. There was again only one dissentient, whose opposition served to emphasise the friendly attitude of the audience towards the speakers.

The *Stratford-on-Avon Herald*, in the course of a long report, noted Mrs. Burman's remark that the names of women burgesses were to be found upon the local registers.

Questions were invited, and Mrs. Wright inquired if, when the Conservatives got into power, they would pursue the same tactics as they did now against the Liberals?

Miss Higgins said it was their intention to bring all the forces they could muster against the Conservatives when they returned to power to secure their rights if need be. They intended to be so persevering that the Tories would say: "Oh, you Suffragettes! Why didn't you do this to the Liberals?" (Laughter.)

THE WOMAN'S PRESS.

The following penny pamphlets are published or sold by the Woman's Press, 4, Clement's Inn, London, W.C.:

- Prison Faces.** By ANNIE KENNEY.
- A Call to Women.** By MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.
- One and One are Two.** By ISRAEL ZANGWILL.
- Talked Out.** By ISRAEL ZANGWILL.
- The Commons Debate on Woman Suffrage.** By CHRISTABEL PANKHURST.
- The Importance of the Vote.** By MRS. PANKHURST.
- The New Crusade.** By MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.
- The Meaning of the Woman's Movement.** By MRS. PETHICK LAWRENCE.
- Votes for Men.** By MARY GAWTHORPE.
- Woman's Suffrage in America.** By MRS. BORRMANN WELLS.
- Woman's Vote in Australia.** By MRS. MARTEL.
- The Citizenship of Women.** By KEIR HARDIE.
- Woman's Franchise.** By MRS. WOLSTENHOLME ELMY.
- Woman's Suffrage.** By T. JOHNSTON.

The Woman's Press also publishes a large number of leaflets on particular questions, samples of which will be sent free on receipt of postage, and which can be obtained in large quantities at specially cheap rates.

From the Woman's Press can also be obtained books on the Woman's Suffrage question, and picture post cards of the leaders of the N.W.S.P.U., and many of the incidents in the agitation.

BADGES AND COLOURS.

The following can also be obtained:—

- Button Badges** with the words "Votes for Women" ... 1d. each.
- Ribbon Badges** (woven "Votes for Women") ... 1d. each.
- Ribbon**, 1½ ins. wide ... 9d. yard.
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- Scarves**, 2½ yards long, 13 ins. wide ... 2/11 each.
- Ties** ... 1/- each.
- Ribbon Belts**, with Buckles ... 2/6 each.

REGALIA.

Regalia similar to those worn at the great demonstration on June 21 by the officers can now be purchased from the Woman's Press, price 2s. 6d. each. It will be remembered that the regalia are in the form of bandoliers in the colours of the Union, with the words "Votes for Women" in black letters back and front. It is hoped that as many members of the Union as are able will avail themselves of the opportunity of purchasing one of these regalia, and that they will wear them on all special occasions.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

Up to September 19 (as far as at present arranged).

Date	Location	Speakers	Time
Sept. 3	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home," Dorset Street	Miss Christabel Pankhurst and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence	8 p.m.
Thur. 3	Clifton, Durdham Down, Blackboy Hill	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	7.30 p.m.
	Bacup	Mrs. Baines	
	Manchester, Eccles Cross	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	7.30 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, "At Home," Tetenhall Road	Miss Keevil	7.30 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, Clarence Road	Miss Keevil, Miss Burkitt	7.30 p.m.
	Wolverhampton, Dudley Market Place	Dr. Jones, Mrs. Edwards	
	Liverpool	Mrs. Martel	3.30 and 8.30 p.m.
	Huddersfield, Thornton Lodge	Miss Adela Pankhurst	7.30 p.m.
	Clifton, "At Home," Hannah More Hall	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	7.30 p.m.
	Bristol, Broad Quay	Mrs. Baines	7.30 p.m.
	Huddersfield, Thornwake	Miss Adela Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Bradford, Somerset Parlour	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8-10
	Manchester, "At Home," Onward Buildings	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8-10
	Streatham, Fountain	Miss Evelyn Sharp, Miss Fraser, Miss Smith	7.30 p.m.
	Southport	Mrs. Martel	3 and 7.30
	Birmingham, Witton Road	Miss Keevil, Mrs. B. Smith	
	Haslingden	Mrs. Baines	
	Burnham	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	7.30 p.m.
	Crawshawbooth, Band Contest	Dr. Helen Jones, Miss B. Ryland	
	Birmingham, Monument Road	Mrs. Baines	8 p.m.
	Liverpool	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
	Manchester, Stevenson Square	Miss Adela Pankhurst	
	Bradford, Mechanics' Institute, Eccles Hill		
	Rawtenstall, Open Air Meeting	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Adela Pankhurst, Mrs. Baines, Mrs. Robinson	3.30 p.m.
	Rawtenstall, Grand Theatre, Demonstration	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Miss Adela Pankhurst, Mrs. Baines, Mrs. Robinson	7.30 p.m.
	Wortley, "Holy Family" School	Miss Adela Pankhurst	
	Room, Green Lane	Miss Keevil	11 and 6.45
	Kettering, United Trades' Club	Mrs. Bartlett, and others	3 p.m.
	Battersea Park	Miss N. Lightman, and others	6 p.m.
	London, "At Home," Portman Rooms, Baker Street	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3-5
	Clifton, Hannah More Hall	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	4 p.m.
	Bradford, Somerset Parlour	Miss Adela Pankhurst	
	Accrington, Market Place	Mrs. Baines	
	Birmingham, Soho Road, corner of Whitehall Road	Miss Keevil, Miss Burkitt	7.30 p.m.
	Harrogate	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	
	Gorton		7.30 p.m.
	Stretford		7.30 p.m.
	Bristol, Horse Fair, Dinner Hour Meeting	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	1 p.m.
	Huddersfield, Northumberland Street Schools	Miss Adela Pankhurst	4 and 8
	Birmingham, Highfield Road, Salfley	Miss Keevil, Miss B. Ryland	7.30 p.m.
	Leeds, Arts Club, "At Home"	Miss Adela Pankhurst	8-10
	Clifton, Durdham Downs	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	3.30 p.m.
	Bourneville, Stribley Street School	Miss Keevil, Mrs. B. Smith	7.30 p.m.
	Shepherd's Bush, Railway Approach, Goldhawk Road	Miss Townsend, Miss Macaulay, and Miss Coombes	7 p.m.
	Manchester, Marshall's Croft		7.30 p.m.
	Kingston Infirmary, Nurses' League	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3.30 p.m.
	London, "At Home," Portman Rooms, Dorset Street	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Clifton, Durdham Down	Miss Annie Kenney	7 p.m.
	Manchester, Miles Platting	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	7.30 p.m.
	Clifton, "At Home," Hannah More Hall	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8-10
	Manchester, "At Home," Onward Buildings		
	Winscombe	Miss Annie Kenney	4-6
	Manchester, Stevenson Square	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
	London, Parliament Hill	Mrs. Bouvier, Dr. Rose, Miss Auld, Miss Winifred Auld	3 p.m.
	Battersea, Princes' Head	Miss Cameron, and others	6 p.m.
	Clapham Common	Mrs. Bartlett, and others	3 p.m.
	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home," Baker Street	Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	3-5
	Clifton, Hannah More Hall	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	4 p.m.
	Release of Prisoners, Holloway		8 a.m.
	Queen's Hall, Complimentary Breakfast		9.15 a.m.
	Hammersmith, Down Place, King Street	Miss Howse and Miss Naylor	7 p.m.
	Bristol, Eastville Park	Miss Annie Kenney	7.30 p.m.
	Clifton, Durdham Down	Miss Annie Kenney	7.30 p.m.
	Edmonton	Miss Higgins	
	London, Portman Rooms, "At Home," Dorset Street	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Leeds, Rowland Road School	Miss Adela Pankhurst	8 p.m.
	Holloway, Release of Miss Mary Phillips		8 a.m.
	Bristol, Broad Quay, Tramway Centre	Miss Annie Kenney, and others	7.30 p.m.
	London, Reception of Released Prisoners, Portman Rooms, Baker Street		8-10
	Manchester, "At Home," Onward Buildings	Miss Mary Gawthorpe	8-10
	Bristol, Durdham Down, Demonstration	Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Annie Kenney, Mrs. Martel, Miss Keevil, Miss Dorothy Pethick, Miss Brackenbury, Miss Douglas Smith	4 p.m.
	Manchester, Stevenson Square	Manchester Members	7 p.m.
	Chiswick, Garden Party Meeting		5-6
	Brondebury, St. George's Literary Society	Miss Evelyn Sharp	

IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.

- Huddersfield (Demonstration) ... Sept. 27
- London, Albert Hall (Meeting) ... Oct. 29

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE £20,000 FUND.

August 26 to		September 1.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Already acknowledged	16,499 1 8	Miss L. Lambert	0 11 0
Anon per Miss A. Kenney	10 0 0	Miss H. Lightman	0 4 6
Miss A. Rodway	0 2 6	Lady Harberton	1 0 0
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Mrs. M. Gillies	0 5 0	Collections, &c.	14 1 4
Miss Hartland	1 0 0		
Anon	0 5 0		
Dr. C. M. Murrell	1 1 0		
Miss M. M. Birkett	0 2 6		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£16,650 19 10</b>

A mass demonstration will take place in Liverpool, under the auspices of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, on Saturday next (September 5), when four platforms will be arranged in front of the St. George's Hall and at the Wellington Column. Proceedings will open at 3.30 p.m. Among the speakers are Miss Margaret Ashton, Miss Eleanor F. Rathbone, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell, and Professor Alexander (Manchester University) In case of rain a meeting will be held in the Alexandra Hall, Islington-square.



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