

THE VOTE
Jan. 22, 1915.
ONE PENNY

SOLDIERS' WIVES VINDICATED.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. NO. 274.

[Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.]

FRIDAY, JAN. 22, 1915.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

OBJECTS: To secure for Women the Parliamentary vote as it is or may be granted to men; to use the power thus obtained to establish equality of rights and opportunities between the sexes, and to promote the social and industrial well-being of the community.

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MIDDLESBROUGH CAMPAIGN.

Trafalgar Square PROTEST

Against ILLEGAL RESTRICTIONS & PENALTIES FOR WOMEN.

Sunday, January 24, 1915, at 3 p.m.

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WILL BE PUT TO THE MEETING:

1. "That this Meeting indignantly repudiates the slanderous aspersions cast by irresponsible and ill-informed persons on Women of all classes, Wives and dependents of Men in His Majesty's Army and newly-recruited forces, and strongly censures the Government for giving countenance to these slanders."
2. "That this Meeting protests against all legislation by which soldiers' wives are insulted, restrictions are enforced against women only, and vice is regulated in a way that protects men only."
3. "That this Meeting demands the Enfranchisement of Women without further delay."

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FAIR PLAY FOR WOMEN.

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Hon. Head of Merchandise Department—Mrs. SNOW.
Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

HEADQUARTER NOTES.

Trafalgar Square Meeting.

We want at least twenty VOTE sellers in the Square on Sunday afternoon. Our Office will be open at 2 o'clock, and we urge volunteers to come here to fetch copies of our paper, which should be on sale in the Square by 2.30.

Wednesday Afternoons at the Suffrage Club

Next week at the Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, Jermyn-street, we shall have the pleasure of an address from the Rev. C. Baumgarten, who will speak on "Ideals of Social Government." Those who heard Mr. Baumgarten recently on "War and the Franchise" will welcome this opportunity of listening to him again, and those who did not hear him should not fail to be present next Wednesday afternoon. Miss Goddard will give an account of her work on the caravan and in London during the last few months. The chair will be taken at 3.30. The following Wednesday we hope to have Mrs. Nevinson, who will give us some news of the war from first hand letters. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

THE SLANDER ON SOLDIERS' WIVES

Completely Refuted by further Inquiries.

A fortnight ago I gave the statistics of the number of soldiers' wives in Glasgow who, since the outbreak of the war, had been brought before the magistrates for drunkenness and child neglect; there were eight convictions. Since then many other figures have been published. The War Office is now in possession of the reports, made by inspectors of the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children, on the alleged increase of drinking among women, especially among soldiers' wives who are in receipt of separation allowances.

The result of the inquiries made all over the kingdom by the Society's officers is the complete vindication of the characters of the soldiers' wives. In the opinion of the Society, they have suffered most unjustly for the sins of a few. The report shows that in 122 Branches there was in many cases actually less drinking than before the war; in 26 Branches there was a slight increase when the war was first declared; but now that conditions have improved drinking has decreased.

In practically every Branch the Society's inspectors tell of women who used to give way to drink, but who have now pulled up, and a result of the sobering influence of the times is that they have bought new clothes for their children, paid off back rents and debts, and in some cases have even opened an account in the post-office savings bank. In cases where women have wasted their allowances and neglected their children, it has been found on investigation that the drink habit was one of long standing.

The Society, in strong words, characterises the charges brought against soldiers' wives as a baseless slander. It is to be hoped that the War Office, having now these facts in their possession at their own request, will proffer a full and ample apology to our soldiers' wives and see that no new legislation is introduced to deal with this non-existent evil.

EUNICE G. MURRAY.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN THE UNITED STATES.

A defeat which is almost a victory for Woman Suffrage in the United States was the result of the voting—for the first time in its history—of the House of Representatives on the question on January 13. The proposal was to enfranchise all women by an amendment of the constitution instead of the slower method of State by the State as at present. The number of members who voted was 378 and the proposal was defeated by 30—174 for; 204 against.

We warmly congratulate our American friends on such an encouraging result at the first attempt, and are not surprised that Lord Curzon has hurried to convey to the Antis in the United States the thankfulness of the Antis here. It was well to make the most of a barren victory while there was yet time. Success must come soon. The year 1915 is to see the Suffrage battle fought in four States: New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Massachusetts; a well organised and extensive campaign is being carried on to ensure victory.

An important point in connection with the victories achieved State by State is that each State sends delegates to vote at the Presidential election according to the number of its voters. The Suffrage States, having doubled the number of their voters by enfranchising their women, have also doubled their representation on the body that elects the President. Soon the Suffrage States, even when in a minority, may control the voting for the Presidential elections.

The current *Englishwoman*, among many other good things, contains a most interesting article by Mrs. Husted Harper on "Woman Suffrage in the United States."

THE WAR AND WOMEN.

Heroic Madame Marchérez of Soissons.

Madame Marchérez, as our readers are aware, proved herself a heroine early in the war when she boldly took up the office of Mayor of Soissons—left vacant—and faced the Germans on what seemed to be their victorious march to Paris. She has suffered severely in the terrific struggle for Soissons which took place last week, but remained at her post, tending the wounded and doing heroic service. The special correspondent in Paris of the *Daily Mail* wrote of her thus in his account of the recent fighting:—

"To-night I have talked with the son of Mme. Marchérez, the heroic woman Mayor of Soissons, who, with four other noble women, remained in the bombarded town, aiding the army doctors in their terrible work under the shell fire. His mother conducted the last party of wounded to leave Soissons, two days ago, as far as Vierzy, and then returned at once to the post she refuses to leave. She is one of the greatest heroines of the war.

"The widow of a senator and belonging to an ancient family, Mme. Marchérez has been prominent all her life for her good works. She is now sixty-three years of age, and did not hesitate to face the German invaders. On September 1 she saved Soissons from sack and burning by her bold adoption of the office of mayor. During twelve days she governed the town, organised a system of requisitions for the German army, and compelled the German governor to accept a reasonable tribute and respect the needs of the civic population.

"In spite of the German demands she secured milk for the starving infants and continued to supervise the Red Cross work. When the English drove the Germans out of Soissons Mme. Marchérez continued as mayor. Three times her house has been hit by the German shells. One shell fell during lunch, demolishing a small wing of the house. Mme. Marchérez laid down her napkin and went to see what had happened. "There is not much damage done," was all she said, and then calmly went back and finished her lunch.

"Her son is not able to rejoin her, but he feels confident that his mother, if spared death by the shells which are continually directed against her home and the town hall, will once more see the enemy swept out of her beautiful valley home."

THE WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS.

Activity at Harrow.

Since the outbreak of the war our shop at Harrow has become one of the most popular spots in the district. We decided that we would feed twenty nursing and expectant mothers as the Branch contribution to the War Help Movement. This work has been a great success, and we have been amply repaid for all the efforts made by the marked progress in the health, both of mothers and babies. We also use the shop for the Headquarters of the Belgian Refugee committee, and at times it resembles a café in Antwerp or Brussels, when our Belgian friends drop in to tea, which we provide for sixpence per head. Our efforts at French and their efforts at English cause much merriment, and passers by often wonder what has happened to the serious minded Suffragist. We also collect clothes for the Belgians, and as people insist on leaving them at the shop instead of at my house the space is periodically so congested that drastic measures are necessary. If any members have clothes which they wish to give to Belgians we should be very grateful for them. MARGARET HUNTSMAN.

Nine Elms Vegetarian Restaurant.

Mrs. Tippett heartily thanks Mrs. John Russell for raisins, scarves and a donation; Miss Arnold for apples and a donation; the Hackney Branch for £1; also an unknown friend who sent a most acceptable gift of vegetables and apples. The label on the basket, which presumably gave the donor's name, was plastered over with the railway label, and was undecipherable.

THE PROTECTED SEX.

The formation of a committee for the Prevention of Criminal Assaults on Children, as the result of a conference held last July, has furnished us with a curious instance of want of generosity. No body of people throughout the kingdom has done more to rouse public opinion on this subject than the Women's Freedom League, and the columns of THE VOTE have provided a substantial amount of information on the way cases concerning outraged girl children are dealt with in the Courts from which women, until the brave fight put up by Mrs. Edith Watson, were rigorously excluded. There can be little doubt that our action, and the information supplied in the Wetherall case pamphlet, have played their part in the formation of the new committee; but the people responsible for its formation jealously shut out from their counsels Mrs. Watson and Miss Boyle, who inaugurated the campaign against these vilest forms of wickedness and injustice.

THE VOTE has received letters on the subject from all parts of the British Empire; and it is an extraordinary example of the ingratitude that reformers so often meet with, that the Women's Freedom League should be ignored in the matter. Even our Suffrage contemporaries have failed to notice in this connection the part played by our League, and one of them even quotes with complacency the opinion of the newly formed committee that these crimes against children and the light penalties attached to them are due to "bad housing" and the "ignorance of the public." We venture to assert that were women to inflict these injuries on little boys no conditions of bad housing or of ignorance on the part of the public would protect them from savage sentences weighted with the solid lead of masculine indignation. And the committee for the Prevention of Criminal Assaults on Children (said "children" being all girls) may take it from us that the root of the evil is not bad housing conditions or public ignorance of facts, but the subjection and inferior status of women which makes crimes against female persons the most easily condoned in the calendar.

The remedies suggested by the committee are women magistrates and police officials and more publicity as to the details of cases. All these things have already been demanded, and the last-mentioned actually supplied, by the Women's Freedom League. Far more than that, however, is required; for without the controlling hand of women in the administration of the country, women officials would be powerless to fight the arrogant sex domination that has created these and similar scandals.

We note with interest the opinion of the committee and the conference at which it was formed that this evil of criminal assault on children is exceedingly wide spread and is on the increase. This is a startling comment on the "protection" afforded to voteless women—the "mothers" on whose devoted heads a wealth of sentimental silliness is lavished, while they are deprived of the most elementary facilities for protecting the children who are supposed to be their natural care and concern.

SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN AT MIDDLESBROUGH

On Thursday, January 14, a very enthusiastic welcome was given to Miss Anna Munro and Miss Alix M. Clark at a reception held in the Suffrage Centre, 231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-road. The room was filled to overflowing, and an excellent programme of exceptional merit was given—all the items were rapturously applauded and encored—the artistes being Miss Edith Calvert, Mrs. Hobson and Mrs. Macnamara. Refreshments were provided. Miss Anna Munro gave a very lucid address on the necessity of keeping the Suffrage flag flying during the present crisis, which was heartily endorsed by all present. Mrs. Schofield Coates presided. New members were enrolled, and THE VOTE and literature sold.

On Friday evening Miss Anna Munro spoke on "Three Years of Life in London Slumdom." The audience was very enthusiastic, entering into the spirit of the meeting with great interest. Questions were asked, and a good collection was taken.

Saturday was spent in VOTE selling. Miss Alix Clark, Miss Hayton, Mrs. Rees and Miss A. Mahony sold in the streets of Middlesbrough and Stockton until the splendid number of over 300 was reached.

On Friday morning Miss Munro and Miss Clark paid a preliminary visit to West Hartlepool to see some of the members. Although the recent raid has greatly unnerved the people, yet the members are as keen on Woman Suffrage as ever, and a longer visit will be paid next week. Merchandise and THE VOTE sold well, and further orders were taken.

Miss Munro's reputation as a speaker is now well-established in Middlesbrough, and there was a good meeting last Monday night, when her address on the "Social Evil" made a deep impression.

The activity of Middlesbrough is most encouraging. The members are all heart-whole in their devotion to the Cause, and a fine example to other Branches. Their new venture of the Suffrage shop deserves the highest praise possible, and there is no doubt it will go on more vigorously than ever after the inspiring visit of Miss Munro and Miss Clark.

OUR "WEDNESDAYS" AT THE SUFFRAGE CLUB

The opening meeting of the session on Jan. 13, when Mrs. Despard and Miss Boyle were the speakers, was a great success. There was a large attendance marked by an infectious spirit of enthusiasm and good will. Mrs. Tanner presided, and focussed at once the prevalent enthusiasm on the absolute need for the enfranchisement of women; her appealing words and able chairmanship evoked a hearty response. Our President received a magnificent welcome, and was evidently delighted to be among her many friends again. In reviewing the general situation she pointed out how the Women's Freedom League was acting as a watch-dog, and had called public attention to many serious disabilities affecting women's liberties. Before the war the League always put Woman Suffrage first, and has not departed from its practice since the declaration of war. Giving a brief account of some of its activities, Mrs. Despard said how pleased she was to hear at the various committees she attended of the good work done by the Branches in London and all over the country; she had never felt prouder of the League than now, and its members were determined to hold together until the vote was won. She made an urgent appeal on behalf of our weekly organ, and asked everyone to take two copies of THE VOTE. With Miss Alix M. Clark and others at hand to supply them, a brisk trade was done.

Miss Boyle had a very hearty reception and kept up the enthusiasm by her forceful and witty speech on the urgent need for women to have the protection of the vote. She dealt with the ways in which their rights and liberties are now being assailed, and aroused great interest in the coming Trafalgar Square demonstration.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., LTD.,
2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

FRIDAY, January 22nd, 1915.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER.

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... 6/6 per annum, post free.
"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

AT IT AGAIN!

The more the affairs of the community are mismanaged by the male persuasion, the more profoundly does that persuasion appear convinced that they are the only people who know what to do. The deeper the imbroglia, the stronger the conviction. War Office contracts, the confusion in the camps, the helpless dependence of the R.A.M.C. on the Red Cross organisations, the wheat combine, and the lack of equipment for the troops and the lack of provision for their dependents notwithstanding; these constitutional and congenital muddlers still regard themselves as the proper medium for advice and admonishment to women, both as to their affairs and their conduct. The more apparent it becomes that the bulk of the criminals and drunkards and people who give trouble are male persons (a fact that is causing the authorities untold embarrassment and difficulty!) the more severe and pronounced becomes the lecturing and scolding directed at women. It is unpleasantly reminiscent of the traditional "general" servant who, having "garrisoned the pantry with infantry" and allowed them to partake of the joint, covers their retreat by stern denunciation of the innocent cat. The general servant at her worst was, however, never so dishonest as these male persons, especially if they happen to be those responsible for the daily Press.

Several new outbreaks of this vicarious righteousness have occurred lately. Men are not joining the colours as fast as certain timorous officials think they ought to do. In spite of Lord Kitchener's statements that recruiting is satisfactory, and the still more pregnant facts that camps cannot be equipped for those already enrolled, and that proper provision for dependents has not yet been guaranteed, the War Office turns indignantly on women and accuses them of holding men back. Instead of hurling all this misdirected effort at the Government and insisting on such provision for wives, widows, families and disabled men as shall let men enlist with a peaceful mind, an insolent advertisement has been published in the daily papers putting "four questions to the women of England," and accusing men of having to be sent by them to "join our glorious army." We do not know which is the more offensive; the assumption that men will not do their duty unless "sent" by women, or the cool statement that women must, at the bidding of irresponsible advertisers (for there is nothing but the cryptic legend "God Save the King" to inform a mystified public that the perpetrators are the War Office!), do their duty—at the expense of their men! The effrontery of it all is stupendous; and but that men appear impervious to all but the grossest form of insult, would be as intolerable to them as it is to us. We can only suppose that they have gauged truly the thickness of each other's skins.

In an organ which has given special prominence to this egregious advertisement, we see, of date January 19, an "explanation" of the rise in the people's food from the shipowners' point of view, emanating from Mr. H. W. Barnett, chairman of "the great shipping exchange known as the Baltic." He states that owing to the shortage of ships in proportion to cargoes, shipowners are being offered heavy profits on freights by merchants anxious to ship their goods. And he says: "Shipowners have had many lean times when they could make no profits, and are entitled to recoup themselves (italics ours) now that ships are in demand." He furthermore says that if maximum freight charges are established by Government, many boats will be diverted to foreign trade where huge freights can be earned, and there will be a still greater scarcity of boats to carry cargoes for Great Britain."

A more scandalously and cynically outspoken declaration of preferring profits to patriotism we do not remember to have encountered. Yet, in the list of advertised "questions to women of England," and "questions to men of England," and "questions to those who employ male servants," and so on, there does not appear to be any rebuke to those who are "recouping themselves" for former losses during the national crisis. Women must "send" their men, forsooth; broken hearts are cheap. Rich folk must "send" their gardeners and footmen and game keepers; soldiers and sailors and volunteers must give their lives. Working people are plentiful; life is a drug in the market. These things have little commercial value, and can be dealt in light-heartedly—by advertisement, so to speak. But the sacred profits wrung from the needs of the nation stand outside remonstrance; on the question of supply and demand patriotism is at a discount and almost any form of treachery is to be condoned. It is time that some searching questions were directed to the trading and contracting classes who are bleeding our country when wounded, and that the male persuasion turned their inquisition to the right quarters and ceased from baiting and misrepresenting and admonishing women.

We turn from the advertising questioners to those estimable people who form the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families' Association. They are distributing broadcast a leaflet embodying some views set forth by Sir Horace Smith Dorrien, in a letter written "behind the trenches at the battle of the Aisne." He wants to tell of the doings of his men, so that their wives and families "may learn to appreciate them at their true value." Proud as Sir Horace is to have such men under him, the women

"should be prouder still to be near and dear relations of such men, and they can show their pride by their own behaviour." "Tell the wives to talk to their children about their brave fathers, and for themselves never to do anything a full account of which they would shrink from giving their husbands on their return." "Tell the women and girls they can serve their country best by leading quiet lives, thus setting an example of self-restraint."

We have seldom been subjected to more exquisite impertinence in all the history of our abused sex. We do not belittle the heroic courage of our men. We acknowledge it heartily; but we expect it of them, and are entitled to expect it. Far from being surprised by it to the extent of going into convulsions of hysterical admiration, our women take the courage of their men for granted and, like the Spartan wives and mothers, would have been bitterly ashamed had they fallen short of the national standard. But what General Smith Dorrien overlooks is that the wives of uncounted numbers of these men, in peace as in war, display courage as great and heroism far greater (inasmuch as there is no glory or recognition or praise for the woman's part), and that it was time that some of the men showed themselves worthy of their splendid wives and mothers, whose uncomplaining endurance is as wonderful as that of their men.

IMPORTANT.

TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS.
In this time of stress we are determined to keep our Suffrage Flag flying and our Flagstaff is—

"THE VOTE."

Week by week our organ makes known to the public our work for the great Cause for which we stand: the continued and pressing need for the enfranchisement of women. It tells also of the work of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps, its varied and practical activities on behalf of the national need at the moment.

We, in company with all Press organs, especially propaganda papers, are suffering severely through the war. Our advertisement revenue is seriously diminished, as in this way big firms are effecting economies, and in the general financial stress the street sales of our paper have been hard hit.

We must face the situation and realise that the Flagstaff is necessary if the Flag is to be held aloft. Every member and sympathiser has a share in this responsibility.

We must have without delay a sum of £500

To ensure it we make the following definite proposals which we hope all will adopt as New Year's resolutions—to last till our goal is won, and women are enfranchised:—

1. That every member and friend will send a donation, large or small, to the fund, or promises of regular weekly subscriptions. Those who cannot run to pounds sterling might manage shillings, or even pennies, per week.
2. That every member and friend will place their orders for grocery, printing, etc., with our Merchandise Department. The profits go to the support of THE VOTE. The prices charged are the same as in the shops, and carriage is paid to any part of the country on orders of 5s. and upwards. Price lists may be obtained on application.
3. That every member and friend will buy at least two copies of THE VOTE each week; one to keep and one or more to give away. If we all keep these resolutions we shall be assured of a steady income, and be relieved from anxiety with regard to our paper. A determined effort must be made if THE VOTE is to continue. Every member must understand the position. In making this clear statement I rely on the co-operation of all who know the national importance of the Cause we have at heart. Cheques and postal orders may be made payable to me at 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A list of contributions will appear each week in THE VOTE. C. DESPARD, Editor.

TO HELP THE VOTE.

We acknowledge with heartiest thanks the following generous donations to our £500 fund—which must be completed with the least possible delay—and express our sincere appreciation of Mrs. Douglas Hamilton's continued interest, despite serious illness, in the work of the Women's Freedom League and THE VOTE:—

Mrs. Douglas Hamilton	£100	0	0
Hackney Branch	10	0	0
Miss Geiler	5	0	0

Our good friend Mrs. Carey promises £5 a month for three months, and "Anonymous" 5s. for the same time.

Previously received:—

Mrs. Mustard 5/-; Mrs. Carey (fourth donation) £1; Mrs. Duncan 5/-; Miss Norah Tennant (per Miss Jack) 2/-; Mrs. Sharman 16/-; Mrs. Carey (Christmas present to THE VOTE) £2; Mrs. Tritton (monthly donation) 5/-; Mrs. Carey (New Year's present to THE VOTE) £1; Tufnell Park Branch £1.

We are glad to add that the energy and enthusiasm shown, especially in Middlesbrough, where Miss Alix M. Clark is assisting Miss Anna Munro in a campaign, resulted in largely increased sales last week and more orders for the Merchandise Department.

trenches. And it is not for men who know and care nothing for all this wealth of national heroism to be instructing women now how they may "best serve their country," and telling them what their behaviour should be!

After all this, it is not surprising to find the German Press scolding women for thinking so much of their kitchens. In view of the Kaiser's injunctions about "Kücher, Kinder and Kirche," one feels that at a less critical time the "Lokal Anzeiger" would have stood a good chance of being sued for *lèse majesté*; but now "woman's place" is under the severest military supervision. The military authorities have instructed house wives in a recipe for economical war bread, and ovens are placed under military supervision.

One more priceless extract, from the Harmsworth factory. An "Important Duty" for women during the war is to keep herself in health.

"Every woman," writes a scribe over the initials "T.F.M." "should seriously consider how she can best maintain the health of her nerves and the general health of her body on which this largely depends. In the home she must bring out her best qualities. . . . Every woman should take care to have abundant sleep at night. Then she must eat wholesome meals at regular hours. . . . Women should not remain indoors. . . . There are visits to friends which may be paid, but the visits should not be used to increase one another's anxiety. . . . The less the war is discussed the better. Then there is shopping. Nothing will better serve to keep women, and in fact the whole community cheerful than the continuance of ordinary shopping."

We commend these pearls of great price to (a) working women living on the Government allowance with a lot of children—especially the bit about "wholesome meals at regular hours"; (b) widows pensioned at 7s. 6d. a week; (c) women with husbands and sons in the fighting line—the bit about not discussing the war is exceptionally happy; and (d) the few hundred thousand out of work or working half-time, who will now get the opportunity not to "remain indoors." As for the shopping, with prices of food forced up by shipowners, and prices for work beaten down by army contractors, it promises to be anything but "ordinary shopping" and will keep no member of the community "cheerful" except those who fatten on its profits.

We propose to publish a leaflet to distribute ourselves, and we will send it for distribution to shipowners, contractors, the War Office, the Harmsworth Press, and the gentlemen who put "questions" and give advice to women. C. NINA BOYLE.

OUR BELGIAN PARTY.

We wish to add to our expressions of thanks last week Mrs. Despard's warmest appreciation of the thought which materialised in the beautiful flowers presented to her, and of the charming speech, so admirably made, by the little Belgian girl. Our best thanks also to Miss Balham who made all the dresses for the dancers, and to Mrs. Shawcross for her gifts of toys for the Christmas Tree and her excellent services as hostess.

LOST.—An umbrella with a brown hook handle and silver clasp; also several other umbrellas, a valuable silk shawl, a gold curb bangle, and a new pair of kid gloves. Will the finders return the articles to the Office, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.?

A NEW SUFFRAGE MONTHLY.

The Woman Suffrage Movement may be proud of its exponent journals in all parts of the world. Here we welcome a new comer this month, *The Catholic Suffragist*, the monthly organ of the Catholic Women's Suffrage Socy., 55, Berners-st.; 1d. Mrs. Alice Meynell, the poet, in contributing the first article to an interesting number, supports the daring production of a new paper in war time by pointing out that "though thousands are suffering acutely, splendidly, conspicuously, millions are suffering chronically, inconspicuously, and with little hope, evils against which the whole Suffrage Movement has set its face."

THE CAFE CHANTANT IN LONDON. Caxton Hall, March 10 and 11.

We urge our readers to make particular note of our Cafe Chantant at the Caxton Hall on March 10 and 11, from 3.30 to 10.30 each day and to co-operate with us in making it a record success by setting themselves and their friends to work at once to provide goods for the stalls.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS. GLASGOW BRANCH.

Table with columns: Name, Amount, Total. Lists donors like Mrs. McLintock, Mrs. Gardner, Miss W. White, etc., with their respective contributions.

MINA STEVEN, Hon. Treas.

BOURNEMOUTH'S WELCOME TO OUR PRESIDENT.

Freedom Hall was crowded in every corner to welcome our President on Friday evening, January 15. Suffragists of every persuasion were eager to hear the "General of the women of England," and many strangers were undoubtedly attracted to see the sister of the General of the men at the front.

The Freedom Hall was kindly lent for the meeting by Mrs. Hume, who took the chair, and greatly impressed the audience by her brief remarks.

BRANCH NOTES.

Anfield. The members of the Anfield Branch began the year 1915 with a social evening on January 15, which was entirely successful. Those present numbered 70.

Bournemouth. It is hoped shortly to start a series of sewing meetings, and all members are urged to attend the meeting at the Freedom Hall on Monday next at 8 p.m.

Croydon—Offices, 32a, The Arcade, High Street. Our thanks are due to the Misses Bryson, Mrs. Gerard and Miss Bennett for their entertaining at our Women's Social on January 13.

Glasgow Suffrage Shop: 70, St George's Road. A most successful social was held on January 14. In spite of bad weather, there was a large gathering; everyone listened with much enjoyment to a varied programme of music, songs and recitation.

(Continued on page 476.)

WOMEN AND WAR.

SERVICE OF INTERCESSION

(Arranged by the C.L.W.S.)

Saturday, 23rd January, 1915, at 3 p.m., In St. John's, Westminster (Smith Square).

Preacher ... The Rev. Dr. Percy D armer.

SOCIAL GATHERING FOR MEMBERS and FRIENDS

4 TO 6 P.M.

CHAIR: Rev. F. M. GREEN, B.D.

Speakers. DR. LETITIA FAIRFIELD, on "Some Impressions of the Fighting Area." Mrs. VELEY, D.Sc., on "Red Cross Work."

TEA, 4 to 4.45 p.m., 6d.

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



DARE TO BE FREE.

Monday, January 25.—CLAPHAM BRANCH MEETING; 1, Imperial Mansions, Bromells-rd.; 8 p.m.

Tuesday, January 26.—HAMPSTEAD BRANCH MEETING; 22, Harley-rd. (near Swiss Cottage); 8 p.m.

Wednesday, January 27.—PUBLIC MEETING; Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, W.; 3.30 p.m.; speakers: Rev. C. Baumgarten, on "Ideals of Social Government," and Miss Goddard.

Wednesday, February 3.—PUBLIC MEETING; Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, W.; 3.30 p.m.; speakers: Mrs. Nevinson, L.L.A., "News of the War from First Hand Letters," and others. 33, Minster-rd., W. Hampstead, Hampstead Branch; DRAWING-ROOM MEETING; 8 p.m.; by kind permission of Mrs. Copesey; speakers: Miss Underwood and Miss A. A. Smith.

Saturday, February 6.—CLAPHAM BRANCH; Jumble Sale; 3 p.m. CROYDON, 32a, The Arcade, High-st.; Whist Drive; 7 p.m. HENDON, 45, Ashbourne-avenue; Whist Drive; by kind permission of Mrs. Cunningham; at 7.45 p.m.; tickets including refreshments 2s.; proceeds will be given to the W.S.N.A.C.

Monday, February 8.—LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL MEETING; 6.30 p.m.; W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C. MEMBERS MEETING; W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-st., Adelphi, W.C.; 8 p.m.; speakers: Miss Boyle, Miss Munro and Mrs. Tippett; chair, Miss Adams.

Wednesday, February 10.—PUBLIC MEETING; Suffrage Club, 3, York-st., Jermyn-st., Piccadilly, W.; 3.30 p.m.; speaker, Mr. John Scurr, and others.

Friday, February 19.—CROYDON, 32a, The Arcade, High-st.; Public meeting; 3.30 p.m.; speaker, Miss Lakeman.

PROVINCES.

Friday, January 22.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Suffrage Centre; Whist Drive; 7.30 p.m.

Saturday, January 23.—LIVERPOOL, St. George's Plateau; Open-air meeting; 3 p.m.

Monday, January 25.—BOURNEMOUTH; Members' meeting; in Freedom Hall, West Cliff Gardens; at 8 p.m.

Monday, January 25.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Suffrage Centre; 8 p.m.; Mr. Wetterstrand; subject: "The Value of Health Foods."

Tuesday, January 26.—LIVERPOOL, Waterloo Town Hall; 8 p.m.; Miss Nina Boyle, "Women and War"; chair, the Rev. Walter Short, B.A. LIVERPOOL, Exchange Flags; 1 p.m.; speaker, Miss C. Nina Boyle.

Wednesday, January 27.—MANCHESTER, Association Hall; Public meeting; speakers, Miss Boyle, Mr. H. W. Nevinson and Miss Evelyn Sharp. MIDDLESBROUGH, Suffrage Centre; 7 p.m.; Children's Party. LIVERPOOL, Islington Square; 7.30 p.m.; speaker, Miss Broughton.

Thursday, January 28.—CHESTER, Freemasons' Hall, Hunter-st.; Miss Nina Boyle, "Women and War."

Monday, February 1.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Suffrage Centre; 8 p.m.; Business meeting.

Monday, February 8.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Suffrage Centre; "At Home"; speaker, the Rev. T. C. Gobat.

SCOTLAND.

Saturday, January 23.—GLASGOW, Bridgeton Cross; Protest meeting; speakers, Miss Shennan and Miss Bessie Semple, and members of Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage.

Friday, January 29.—GLASGOW, Philosophical Rooms, 207, Bath-st.; Protest meeting; 8 p.m.; speaker, Miss Boyle; chair, Miss Murray.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Sunday, February 7.—KINGSTON HUMANITARIAN SOCIETY, Fife Hall, Kingston; 7 p.m.; speaker, Miss Murray.

Advertisement for William Clarke & Son's Coal. Text: "Make the home bright by using William CLARKE & SON'S COAL. LOWEST PRICES. Silkstone ... 30/6, Best Nuts ... 28/-, Stove Coal ... 26/6, etc."

SCOTLAND PROTESTS AGAINST INJUSTICE TO WOMEN.

EDINBURGH, Saturday, January 23, 1915, 3.30 p.m.

AT THE MOUND.

OPEN-AIR DEMONSTRATION TO PROTEST against recent attacks on the Liberties of Women,

The UNITED SUFFRAGISTS and the NORTHERN MEN'S FEDERATION will co-operate, and among the speakers will be Miss EUNICE MURRAY and Councillors BARRIE and GRAHAM.

GLASGOW, Saturday, January 23rd, 1915, 3 p.m.

AT BRIDGTON CROSS.

OPEN-AIR DEMONSTRATION TO PROTEST against recent attacks on the Liberties of Women.

Supported by the NORTHERN MEN'S FEDERATION for WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

Among the Speakers will be the Misses Shennan and Semple.

Advertisement for International Women's Franchise Club. Text: "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S FRANCHISE CLUB. 9, GRAFTON STREET, PICCADILLY, W. FOR MEN AND WOMEN. SUBSCRIPTIONS: London Members (Resident within 15 miles of Charing Cross) per annum One Guinea. Entrance Fee One Guinea."

Advertisement for Toye & Co. Text: "TOYE & CO., 57, Theobald's Road, London, W.C. Specialists in BANNERS, REGALIA, BUTTONS, BADGES, ROSSETTES for every Society. Designs and Estimates Free. Phone 3820 Central. Established 1855. Wire 'Modifying. London.'"

Advertisement for ELEGANT EYE-GLASSES. Text: "ELEGANT EYE-GLASSES. At Very Moderate Prices. Mr. McCLEAN will be pleased to test the eyes of readers of this paper entirely free of charge and advise thereon. By our method of testing the sight and fitting the individual face, perfect satisfaction is assured, both with regard to sight and comfort in wear. Gold-filled Spectacles and Pince-Nez From 5/- per pair. We hold a large selection of LOUIS LORNETTES, as illustrated, latest designs, at 15s. A. E. McCLEAN, Ophthalmic Optician. 37, ALDWYCH, W.C. (Under the Waldorf Hotel.)"

ONE
PENNY]

THE VOTE

WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

(Continued from page 474.)

promised regular weekly subscriptions. The Protest Meeting on January 23 promises to be a great success, and everyone is looking forward to hearing Miss Boyle on January 29.

Ipswich

At a committee meeting on January 14 at 22, Queen-st., we considered our work for the coming session. Miss Bobby kindly took charge of THE VOTE distribution. It was agreed that members should attend the course of fortnightly history lectures arranged by the Workers' Educational Union—to which our Branch is affiliated—in connection with the Social Settlement. For the first time women are to be admitted, so it is hoped that members will attend and wear their Freedom League badges. The lectures bear on the present crisis; the subject of the first is "The Birth of an Empire." On alternate Thursdays members will meet at the club; half-an-hour will be given to discussion of the lecture; the rest of the time to making hospital necessities.

Liverpool.

During the past week Miss A. Broughton twice visited the Liverpool Canister Works, where a large number of girls are employed. On the first visit she was unable to hold a meeting, but was permitted to distribute leaflets to the girls while they were at lunch. This afforded her an opportunity of having a quiet chat with them. The weather being favourable on the Thursday, Miss Broughton addressed the girls outside the gates. It was the first Suffrage meeting held there, and a large crowd of women came out of their homes in the vicinity to listen; Miss Broughton continued to address the women for another half-hour after the girls had returned to their work. The women present were much interested, and requested the speaker to come again.

On January 12 Miss Broughton visited the Oakfield Co-operative Women's Guild. Mrs. Campbell presided and Miss Broughton gave an address upon the "Economic Status of Women," which was followed by a discussion. THE VOTE and other Suffrage literature was sold. Two women present promised to join the Anfield Branch of the

W.F.L. Miss Broughton hopes to be successful in forming a central Branch in Liverpool, and she would be glad to hear from friends or sympathisers who would join such a Branch or who could help her in any way.

Sale.

On January 12 Mrs. Despard opened an exhibition of pictures at The Studio, Sale. The exhibition, which will be open for a week, contains water-colour pictures by Miss Fildes and Miss Hines, two artists well-known to members of the Women's Freedom League. The *locale* of the pictures is laid chiefly in Cornwall and Suffolk. The exhibition presents a warm patch of colour which is grateful in these days of gloom. The admission fees are to be given to the local Branch of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps.

British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union.

A report to December 31, 1914, has been issued by the Union of the splendid result of its appeal for help on behalf of poor children. In gratefully acknowledging the contributions of clothing and money from the Woman Suffrage Societies of South Africa and Canada, and the Women's Political Associations in Australia and New Zealand, the hon. secretary, Miss Harriet Newcomb, explains that the distribution of clothing is made through the War Relief organisations of the London Suffrage Societies, and that the money is divided between depôts for providing milk for infants and workrooms for unemployed women, unless another purpose is specified by the donors.

Canada, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand have sent £123 19s. 2d. and more than 52 cases of clothing in addition to bales and parcels.

The Hon. Secretary also begs gratefully to acknowledge the generosity of the Australian and New Zealand Governments, of the South African Government railways, of the Union Castle Line, the South African Boating Line, the Natal Line of steamers, and of the London agents, Messrs. Van Oppen and Co. and Messrs. Neale and Wilkinson, for conveying the goods free of charge.

The next acknowledgment will be made to date March 31.

Arthur's Stores, 120, Westbourne Grove, W., FOR GENERAL PROVISIONS AND HIGH-CLASS CONFECTIONERY.

All cakes and pastries made of the finest ingredients by our own bakers.
— TRIAL EARNESTLY SOLICITED. —

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Gas Administered Daily by qualified Medical Man, Fee 7/6.
Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
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with hand or head need in their food the maximum of nourishment with the minimum of trouble. Send for our new list with food tables, &c., post free on request from (Mention this paper.)

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Mrs. PIPER, Proprietress. Telephone: Wimbledon 504.
A FAMILY LAUNDRY, under Distinguished Patronage
MY PRICES ARE MODERATE.

— Customers of over 20 years' standing. —

SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE hold PUBLIC MEETINGS at THE SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York Street, Jermyn Street, Piccadilly, every Wednesday afternoon. Speakers: Jan. 27, the Rev. C. Baumgarten, Miss Goddard. Admission free. Collection. Buy THE VOTE, 1d. weekly.

ASSOCIATION HALL, Mount-st., Manchester. Wednesday, January 27, 7.30 p.m. United Suffragists and Manchester Men's League for Women's Suffrage. Joint Protest Meeting: "Stand up for the soldier's Wife." Chair: Mr. J. Beanland (Hon. Sec. M.M.L.W.S.). Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle, Miss Evelyn Sharp and Mr. H. W. Nevinson. Admission free. Reserved seats, 1s. and 6d., may be obtained from Mr. Bentley Capper, 21, Oxford-road.

BOARD-RESIDENCE. Rooms, Holiday Homes, &c.

AT THE STRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL, opposite Gaiety Theatre, Strand, London. — Absolute Privacy, Quietude and Refinement.—Ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters. Sumptuous Bedroom with h. and c. water fitted. Breakfast, Bath, Attendance and Lights, from 5s. 6d. En pension, 9s. For long stays, special terms. Finest English provisions.—MANAGERESS, 4788 Gerrard.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

TEA.—Everyone appreciates a good Cup of Afternoon Tea. We now have a very special brand, fragrant and digestive. Price 1/7 a lb. Send for a trial ¼-lb., which will be sent post free as an advertisement.—The Minerva Publishing Co., Ltd., 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

HASLUCK'S ACADEMY, 3, Bedford-street, Strand, W.C. Elocution, Public Speaking, Acting, Stage and Ball-room Dancing, Singing. Evening Classes, from 7/6 per quarter. Day, £1/1/- Private Lessons, 3 for £1/1/- Call, write or 'phone (2383 Gerrard).—SAM L. HASLUCK, Director.