

THE VOTE

(THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.)

VOL. II.—No. 30.

SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

NOTICE.

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

Offices: 148, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.

EDITORIAL.

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

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WHAT WE THINK.

"Wake Up, England!"

Out of the limbo of half-forgotten things in this dozing country the tide of eulogy and reminiscence has flowed on past one King to greet another. Anecdote and discreet tittle-tattle filled the great dailies, everything anyone could remember being translated into swift journalese. Generally the point that struck the ripe reader most was the loss of "point of view" from which the ordinary man suffers when in the vicinity of kingship. He loses his horizon, and becomes like a Chinese landscape. There is one glorious exception—the incomparable Roosevelt, the uncrowned king of the only "awake" continent. He is his own horizon; no king, dead or alive, can block him out. The fact that he is an "ex" he does not allow to trouble him. He keeps bobbing up and down in every available country. He persists in attracting more attention than Halley's comet or Hall Caine; and this in Europe alone, while in his native country—if America will allow her mighty self to come under local terminology—he has achieved the impossible, he has become a prophet: he is It. Now, Mr. Roosevelt has become It by methods somewhat akin to our own: he has kicked the sleepers—unmindful of Roman proverbs. He has made himself a European nuisance, though the ends he sought to gain were personal and not, like ours, of universal significance. He has sought advertisement early and often—so have we, even when it has been sorely against the grain—and he has got "There." Presently we, too, shall get "There." The signs of sleep are passing from this country, and our march on June 18th will be either a prelude to something bigger, or a "Te Deum" for a fulfilment of our desires, according as the stubborn master of the Cabinet wills. Still Mr. Asquith harps on the word "enfranchisement"; it is hardly ever out of his mouth, and, pronouncing his requiem on the late King, he described him as "an enfranchised citizen of the world," and the world was at his feet. It has been said that the appearance of the comet brings disaster with it, and that this disaster was the King's death. But the law of compensation is so even and fine a thing that some great event of happy national significance is bound to follow in the train of this catastrophe. If Halley's comet brought with it the loss of the Peacemaker of Europe, it may restore civil peace to this fair country, and give to the majority of the nation the boon they have suffered for and prayed for—the removal of the sex disability. The new reign has begun under happy auspices, and the new King has included his Queen's name as a co-worker with him in his message to the nation.

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186, REGENT STREET.

In their world-tour both King George and Queen Mary must have seen the effect of female enfranchisement in Australia and New Zealand, and if once again this wise young man says to his people, "Wake up, England!" they may heed from a King what they heard from a Prince, and Halley's comet shall have brought us luck.

The Ideal Tribunal.

In the course of a recent case in the City, where there was question of selling arachide oil as an adulterant with olive oil, Mr. A. H. Bodkin, who was for the defence, said he had elected to have the case tried by the Alderman because it was one of vast importance to business men, and in such a matter it was an immense advantage to have a business man on the Bench. "One of the benefits that City men enjoyed was that where complaints were made concerning matters of business, they had a business man's tribunal." To be tried by one's peers is surely the highest form of tribunal, but this is reserved for men alone. It never seems to occur to the ordinary magistrate that there is something indecent in his position when a wretched woman—generally the only woman in Court—is brought before him, whose judge he is, but of the temptations of whose sex or of whose economic disabilities he knows nothing, and cares less. No attempt has ever been made at an ideal tribunal for women, though every effort is continually aimed at putting the man on a just footing. "It's Woman This, and Woman That," but there's no ideal justice for them.

A Grievance.

In our clever and ably-written contemporary, the *Conservative Women's Franchise Review*, exception is taken to the fact that in the official programme of the Pageant of London, with the exception of a very small advisory committee, only one woman's name can be found in the ample list of managers, artists, musicians, and lecturers. It further says: "Mr. Crane's picture on the cover would appear to be a delicate satire. Two women, London and Britannia, stand hand in hand, while a somewhat replete-looking lion lies between them with a grin of complete satisfaction on his face. He has evidently, as usual, taken his customary share." This, of course, is to be expected. The trades-unionism of sex is of long standing, and as long as the London Press is controlled by men, and women's papers are run by men, no public attention will be called to this species of mean injustice. It is the duty of the suffrage papers, however, on every occasion to watch for these examples of boycotting and to show them up. The number of people who read suffrage journals is largely increasing. They find in them what no so-called women's paper ever offered them before—the woman's point of view. We endeavour to do this ourselves week by week, and we welcome similar activities on the part of our contemporaries.

A Business-like Chairman.

Lady Ebury, who was chosen Chairman of the Watford Board of Guardians, presided last week in that capacity for the first time. The comments on her business-like conduct of the meeting are significant. "Points of order," says the *Daily Mail*, "were decided without hesitation, and speakers were kept to the main issue. The board quickly came to the conclusion that their choice of a chairman was a happy one." The list of women sustaining municipal office is a lengthy one, and the reports of their capacity are invariably favourable, though naturally they are more closely observed than men would be.

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President, Mrs. C. DESPARD.

HON. TREAS., MISS S. BENETT. HON. ORG. SEC., MRS. T. BILLINGTON-GREIG. HON. SEC., MRS. E. HOW MARTYN.

OUR WORK.

The Procession. OUR meetings have been to a certain extent disturbed by the general mourning and the holidays; but we hope that the breathing space which this has given our workers will have been utilised by them to get into fighting trim and into working order for our share in the procession. There is nothing like the exalted feeling that inspires one when marching as a unit of a vast body moving in serried ranks through the streets of this old London—a city slow to move, but kindly and friendly and wonderful when her heart has been touched. London is with us; she has been with us for the last two years. The temper of the crowd has changed; there is sympathy in it, there is welcome, and there is now that chivalry which was to have been, according to the great Pro-Consuls, our reward for quiescence, but which only militancy has won for us. From Cleopatra's Needle, ravished from the Nile, standing on the wind-swept Embankment—reminiscent of woman's power of the older sort—sex power used for political ends—we will march, and our march is symbolic of all that we leave behind, and swinging into the great trade centre, where "the river Piccadilly flows," we will pass the Folly Fountain, where nightly our little sisters travel shamewards to the glow of Leicester Square or the traffic of club-land. Both we leave behind in deliberate step, and to our own "Marseillaise" we win our way, a pageant of what we are doing and have done, down to that vast hall which has never been, as Israel Zangwill told us, the home of lost causes. It has been said that in great crises the Parliament often ceases to represent the people. The Parliament has been harsh to us, but the people are with us, and they will demonstrate their will to us on this day of our march. The more numerous we are the greater the power of the demonstration will be.

Drawing-room Meetings. SOME very successful drawing-room meetings were held last week. Mrs. Hicks had a large gathering at 33, Downside Crescent, to hear Mrs. Manson; Mrs. Nevinson and Mrs. Thomson-Price took part in the subsequent discussion. The collection was very satisfactory. Mrs. Despard spoke at Mrs. Montagu Yates' meeting, and Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Chapin, and Mr. Gugenheim spoke for Mrs. Duval.

The Treasury. MISS BENETT writes: "I know I am voicing the thoughts of all members and supporters of the League in speaking of our special anxiety as to finance just now, when there is so much to distract people's thoughts, and when there are so many extra calls on their purses. Our efforts must not slacken for a moment. As soon as the funeral of the King is over our speakers and organisers must strain every nerve to again concentrate public attention on our cause, the most important political question there is. We must support our Branches, form new Branches, and be here, there, and everywhere, to make people recognise that the W.F.L., as a militant society, is gathering its forces for future action. There is no need to remind friends how expensive such work is, and that we should be grateful for extra support."

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HELEN MAR
IRENE VANBRUGH
(Engagements permitting)
CONSTANCE COLLIER
H. V. ESMOND
MAUD HOFFMAN & LAURENCE LEYTON in a duologue.
EVA MOORE and C. V. FRANCE in a New Play.
AT THE PIANO—Miss Theresa Beney, Mr. Leonard Calvert.
TICKETS—Stalls, £1 1s. & 10/6 (reserved), 5/- & 2/6 unreserved—can be obtained from Criterion Restaurant, at the Suffrage Societies, and from the Hon. Secretary, Actresses' Franchise League, Adelphi Terrace House, W.C. Telephone—City 1214.

JOHN STUART MILL CELEBRATIONS

Owing to the funeral of the King, the date of the celebration has been altered from Friday, May 20th, to Saturday, May 21st. We hope all our members will do their utmost under the circumstances to make this extremely interesting event a great success and do honour to the pioneer of Women's Suffrage.

A cortège of carriages and other vehicles will leave the W.F.L. offices at 12.45, passing through Adam Street (across Strand), Aldwych, Kingsway, New Oxford Street, Oxford Street, Regent Street, Piccadilly Circus, Haymarket, Cockspur Street, Whitehall, and along the Embankment, to the statue in Temple Gardens, where the wreaths from branches, individual members of the W.F.L., from the Actresses' Franchise League, also from other Women's Societies and the Men's League for Women's Suffrage will be placed upon it. An open-air meeting will then be held, at which Mrs. Despard and Dr. Baillie Weaver will speak.

In the evening there will be a meeting at the Caxton Hall, Westminster, tickets for which are now on sale, prices 1s. and 6d. It will be remembered that John Stuart Mill was member for Westminster when he introduced his famous Bill for Women's Suffrage in the House. At this meeting representatives of every human activity will speak, including Mrs. Despard (chair), General Sir Alfred Turner (the Services), Mme. Aino Malmberg (Finland), Mrs. Ayres Purdie (Commerce), Mr. Kenneth Richmond (Education), Lala Lajput Raj (India), Mr. Frank Rutter (the Press), Dr. Baillie Weaver (Law), Mr. Walter Crane, R.W.S. (Art), and others.

Wreaths have already been promised by almost every branch of the W.F.L., as well as from Lady Cook, Mrs. Despard, Countess Russell, the Hon. Mrs. Haverfield, Mrs. Snow, the Actresses' Franchise League, the Uxbridge Branch of the National Union of Suffrage Societies, the Men's League, the Scottish Centre, Eastbourne, &c. All those desirous of taking part are requested to send in their names at once, so that particulars as to decorating and number of carriages in the cortège may be forwarded. Wreaths should reach the W.F.L. offices not later than 10 a.m. on Saturday, 21st. For any further particulars application should be made to Miss Sime Seruya, W.F.L. Offices, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

The following donations have been received:—Glasgow Central Branch, £1; Mrs. Ager, 2s.

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THE WOMEN'S PROCESSION.

The date of the Procession is now definitely fixed for June 18th. We line up at 5.30 at Cleopatra's Needle, and begin our march at 6.30. There has been a slight disarrangement of work owing to the alteration of dates of meetings, but these meetings will all be held, and members must redouble their efforts to make up for time lost and help to make the Freedom League section of the Procession a tremendous success. Members must not rely on all the work being done from headquarters, but must each undertake to do some part of it in her own district. We must show the public that we are stronger and more energetic than ever before. The eyes of the whole of Great Britain will be on the militants on this occasion, and we must show that militancy has proved a success, and has drawn to the cause a great army of women from all ranks of life.

THE W.F.L. CONTINGENT.

Mrs. Despard, our beloved president, will lead our contingent, and we are making arrangements for our members and sympathisers from all over London, the provinces, Scotland, and Wales to join and march with us.

SECTIONS.

Our list of sections is increasing rapidly. Different professions and trades are applying to walk with us carrying special banners. Mrs. How Martyn will lead the cap-and-gown section, which includes the doctors, professors, and graduates. There will be a special section for nurses in uniform, and we hope all members who are nurses will bring their friends in great numbers. A very interesting section will be that of the prisoners. We do not propose to wear prison dress, but we want those of our women who have suffered in this way for the Cause to march in a strong body together, under a special banner, and wearing, if possible, some special decoration. Each will carry her own special prisoner's banner, designed by Miss Edith Craig and painted by Miss Pocock. There will also be special banners for the pharmacists, gymnasts and athletes, Post Office officials, and members of the Anti-Sweating League; also for the Educational and International Sections. We hope that all those marching will try to wear white dresses, with the regalia of the Women's Freedom League, which can be had (price 2s.) at our office.

APPEALS.

Miss Seruya, our Procession secretary, makes appeals. They are urgent, as without help, financial and otherwise, the success of the Procession cannot be ensured. We need donations for the general expenses fund. The expenses are very heavy, and now that the meetings connected with the Procession have been postponed there is much more additional printing to be done. We have already received several donations.

HOSPITALITY.—As a great number of those who will march are coming from the country, and as the meeting is now to be held in the evening, many who otherwise would not have had to do so will remain in London overnight, so we hope that everyone who can arrange to do so will offer hospitality, but for those who are unable there has been opened a Special Hospitality Fund. We tender our thanks to those who have already contributed to the fund, but a much larger number of offers will be needed to accommodate all our visitors.

DECORATIONS.—Miss Edith Craig is in charge of this most important part of our section, and is arranging a beautiful scheme of decoration. She would like everyone marching to carry one of the pennons in the colours she has designed. These cost 4s. 3d. per dozen, but so that those who are unable to give this amount can still contribute to the decorations fund a special 1s. fund has been opened. Larger sums are, of course, needed to pay for the beautiful new banners which the Suffrage Atelier are executing for us. Helpers are urgently needed both at our offices and at the Atelier to sew, stencil, and decorate.

VOLUNTEERS.—We must have helpers for all kinds of work. Especially do we want those who will spare an

hour daily to call on sympathisers and invite them to walk with us, to arrange special outdoor, drawing-room, and other meetings. Several of these have been arranged by branches and individual members, but to make the Procession widely known a great number more must be arranged. At all these meetings Procession bills must be widely distributed, and names of those willing to walk enrolled,

LATEST ARRANGEMENTS.

As the Albert Hall will be filled by members of the N.W.S.P.U., and as we are having so many of our members from various parts of the country, we have arranged to hold meetings at the Large and Small Kensington Town Halls. Tickets are now on sale, prices 5s., 2s. 6d., and 1s. A few free seats for women only. Members are advised to book seats at once, as they are booking rapidly. Refreshments will be obtainable at a very small fee. The meetings will begin at 8.30. The list of speakers is not yet complete, but will include Mrs. Despard, Mrs. How Martyn, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Sproson, and Miss Benett.

TRAVELLING.

Special facilities are being made for those travelling. The W.S.P.U. are arranging trains at reduced fares, and all Societies participating in the Procession can travel by these. Where this is not possible reduced rates can be obtained for parties of twelve or more.

FINALLY.

We must impress on our members the necessity of each doing her share to make this great Procession a success. Especially do we ask them to lessen the work of those responsible at the office by reading carefully and filling in the cards which they have received, and returning them promptly to the office, so that the sections may be arranged. And do not hang back and wait for others to do the work. Come forward at once and volunteer. We can find work for all. Send in your names to any of the organisers in charge or come to the office. Do not think that because we have more time before us now there is less to do; we have to make up for time and meetings lost. Below we publish a list of donations received for the various funds.

PROCESSION OFFICERS.

Leader.—Mrs. Despard.
Leader of University Section.—Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.S., B.Sc.
General Director.—Miss Edith Craig.
Indoor Meetings.—Mrs. Manson.
Outdoor Meetings.—Miss Sime Seruya.
Decorations.—Miss Tucker.
THE VOTE Sellers.—Mrs. Snow.
Other Local Organisers.—Miss Leyson, Miss Dorothy Spencer, Miss Kelley, Miss Muriel Nelson, M.A. Ireland: Miss Coyle. Wales: Mrs. Cleaves. Yorkshire: Mrs. Schofield Coates. N.W. England: Miss Manning, B.A. Portsmouth: Miss Bremner. Scotland: Miss Sidley.
We have received a promise of £6 6s. for a band from Mrs. Marion Cunningham. We hope others will follow this generous example.

DONATIONS.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
General Expenses Fund:		Sutcliffe, Mrs. M.	0 4 2
Clapperton, Miss Hume.	1 0 0	Bexfield, Mrs.	0 4 3
Neilans, per Miss (Collection Egham)	0 3 0	Fisher, Mrs. M.	0 4 3
Central Branch	2 10 0	Tucker, Miss	0 4 3
Wilks, Dr.	1 0 0	Gillmore, Miss	0 4 3
Harrison, Mrs. L.	0 2 6	Hicks, Miss A.	0 4 3
Armstrong, Miss	0 2 6	For Hospitality Fund:	
Clark, Mrs.	0 10 0	Gillmore, Miss	0 10 0
Gonne, Capt.	0 2 0	Is. Fund for Decorations:	
Anderson, Miss M.	1 0 0	Gill, Miss	0 1 0
For Pennons:		Hodgson, The Misses	0 3 0
Amount previously acknowledged	1 9 9	Cameron, Miss	0 1 0
Bailton, Mrs.	0 5 0	Ballam, Miss	0 1 0
Ibbotson, Miss	0 4 3	Kelley, Miss	0 1 0
Neilans, Miss A.	0 2 2	Lane, Miss	0 1 0
		Anonymous	0 1 0
		Lewis, Mrs. W. Lewis	0 1 0

"Articles of Faith in the Freedom of Women," a series of essays championing the cause of woman, by Mr. Laurence Housman, will shortly be issued by Mr. Arthur C. Fifield, publisher, 13, Clifford's Inn, London, E.C.

MRS. ENNIS RICHMOND.

"If co-education were the recognised educational system in England there would be no need to agitate for the Vote; it would have come naturally long ago," said Mrs. Ennis Richmond, whose co-educational school at West Heath, Hampstead, has begun to attract considerable attention. "When boys and girls have been educated together you do not get that idea of superiority on the part of the boy towards the girl which grows into that of the man towards the woman; there is a sense of comradeship, of unembarrassed freedom, and of equality which is only found in the exceptional man who has been trained under the existing system in the ordinary way."

"You connect the existence of a wrong educational system with the reluctance to grant women the suffrage?"

"The connection is an obvious one. When fighting for the suffrage, we have to combat the masculinity that is bred in the public schools and universities, and our fight in this respect is unique: it has no parallel in any other country. The young men of the country are monasticised until they leave the universities, which they do about twenty-two. It is not until then that they meet on any social footing the women of their own milieu. The natural result—or, rather, the unnatural result—is that they proceed to 'think of humanity in pairs,' as a character in De Morgan's 'It Never Can Happen Again' says."

"This, you think, would be avoided by co-education?"

"Yes; and for this reason: co-education keeps the sex sense young. As things are boys and girls are separated during the period that their emotions are dormant, and introduced just at the time they have been awakened. The result is a wrong outlook on life, particularly on the part of the man, who cannot refrain from regarding a young woman from the point of view of her sex, instead of from that of her intellect, her aims, and their common interests."

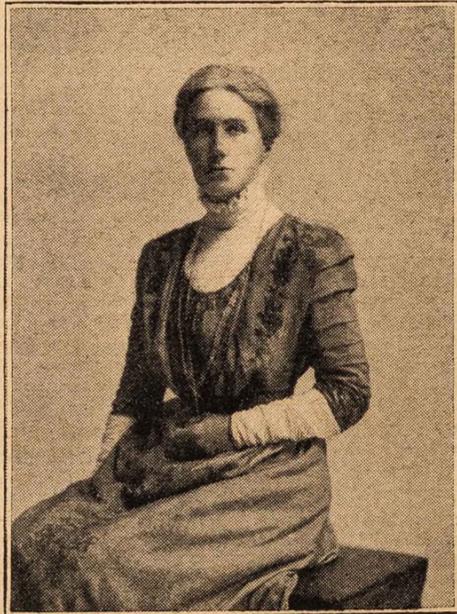
"Do you find the idea of superiority on the part of the small boy easy to eliminate?"

"It passes very rapidly when he works in the same classes with girls. Curiously enough, it is stronger in the small boys just straight from the nursery than in the elder boys who have been here for some time and have found their level. When teaching a mixed class we hardly ever think whether it is a girl or boy who answers, but solely from the point of view of the completeness of the answer."

"There is no difference, then, between them as pupils?"

"The difference in a mixed class is not a sex difference; it is a difference of individuals, the same as it is throughout life. Stupidity or ability is not the heritage

of either sex. They are individual characteristics. As a matter of fact, I make it a principle that progress—i.e., the genuine effort to improve, rather than the acquisition of superficial cleverness, be the aim of all children. Thus those who are stupid do not have it forced upon them that they are less able than the others; nor do those who are clever have always before them the fact that they are more intelligent than their neighbours. The aim in each class is not to be better than each other, but to be better than themselves. There are four masters and four mistresses in West Heath School, all of whom teach the younger and the older children. We do not make the distinction of putting women over younger children and men over older, believing that such a distinction leads again to that wrong idea of sex superiority. The children here are of varying ages from six to sixteen, and they are given exactly equal chances. Generally up to the age of nine or so a small boy gets a better grounding than a small girl, but here they both get the same, and we find they have equal receptive faculties. There are no competitive examinations, no marks, no home lessons. The teaching is largely oral and the results are excellent. Co-education is no longer an experiment; it has produced fine results in America and other parts of the world, and it has already been tried very successfully in England."



MRS. ENNIS RICHMOND.

"You think, then, that the equal suffrage in certain States of America is the result of co-education?"

"Certainly I do! Once the sexes have been educated together, the man quickly realises that sex is not an argument for superiority; he finds his own level very speedily, and he also finds that a woman makes an excellent comrade without any sentimental attitude towards her following hot-foot on friendship. The normal man and woman are produced by co-education, the abnormal by the present system. The dullness of the lives of children in

the separated schools is reflected in the conversation one hears among the children. Their talk is perfunctory. It is usually confined to a sort of personal gossip: what someone did, what some master said; and it is somewhat furtive if anyone of authority is within hearing distance. The children are afraid of being thought clever or emotional if they talk naturally or discuss outside things; but I find exactly the opposite amongst our boys and girls, and I have much experience of both kinds of schools. The children here talk about everything; one will say something, and someone else will 'chip in,' and it is curious the opinions you will hear."

"In spite of the fact that co-education does not prevail in England, do you think the Vote will come soon?"

"Yes. My only fear is lest a franchise on the municipal basis should be accepted. This would be a pity."



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101 POINTS IN FAVOUR OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

These points will cover the legal, social, and economic grounds on which women demand the vote, and will call attention to the glaring inconsistencies which demand a change in the present condition of the franchise.

20.—The pick of the professions, the law, the highly-paid civil service appointments, and every well-paid post have been reserved for the male sex; and this notwithstanding the fact that in those professions which were grudgingly opened to women, such as medicine, they have shown equal capacity with the men.

Were it not that the generality of men cannot yet tolerate the idea of living with an equal, I think that almost everyone, in the existing state of opinion in politics and political economy, would admit the injustice of excluding half the human race from the greater number of lucrative occupations and from almost all high social functions: ordaining from their birth either that they are not, and cannot by any possibility become, fit for employments which are legally open to the stupidest and basest of the other sex, or else that, however fit they may be, those employments shall be interdicted to them in order to be preserved for the exclusive benefit of males. . . . The most determined depreciator of women will not venture to deny that when we add the experience of recent times to that of ages past women, and not a few merely, but many women, have proved themselves capable of everything, perhaps without an exception, which is done by men, and doing it successfully and creditably.—JOHN STUART MILL.

We have waited so long that it would be worth while to wait a little longer to get it on the satisfactory basis. We must not betray the working women. We have taken them on our backs and we must not put them down; we have used them as a stalking-horse so often on the platform that it would be a shame if they should be left outside when the great day came."

"You think, then, that a large number of working women would have the Vote if it were granted on the same terms as to men?"

"There would be a great number who could qualify under the 4s. a week lodger franchise, and all of them would be given something to hope for. The great body of the working women and the much-maligned class of domestic servants would have the chance of the franchise if sex disability were removed."

"And your work for the suffrage?"

"Co-education—it is the only way I can assist the cause—to help to produce the man and the woman who stand together as co-workers and comrades—'free woman and free man.'"

M. O. K.

"WOMEN'S FRANCHISE AND INDUSTRY."—Under this title an excellent little pamphlet by Mrs. Despard has just been published by the Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. (price one penny). All who are interested in the great labour problem as it affects women should certainly obtain a copy. Mrs. Despard is one who has been interested in the workers nearly all her life, and no one, perhaps, is more qualified than she to speak of the dignity of work. The economic side of the women's movement is one that should appeal to all who are intelligently watching its progress. Mrs. Despard shows that the political enfranchisement of women is the only possible solution of the present economic problem as it affects women workers.

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THE VOTE.

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SATURDAY, MAY 21, 1910.

CITIZENS OR OUTLAWS?

"THE KING IS DEAD."

The pomp and pageantry of woe that everywhere accompanies a dead monarch to his last resting-place is probably a more sincere expression of feeling in this country than in any other. We have had our share of good and of bad rulers; some whose names will be execrated as long as history lasts, and others whose records stand out as embodying all that is royal and of good repute.

King Edward will be a lasting memory. His efforts in the sacred cause of peace alone will ensure him a special niche of gratitude in the hearts of all who love justice and humanity.

King Edward is dead, and George his son reigns in his stead. It is impossible for the women of the country to contemplate a new reign, a fresh "starting-off" place in history without a speculative wonder as to what their place is to be in the fresh order of things. Citizens or Outlaws? A rebellious faction fighting for recognition and justice, or members of a free and just community?

"The King can do no wrong," for the simple reason that his acts as Monarch are in accordance with the advice of his Ministers, and he is not responsible therefore either for the act or its consequences. Fully recognising this, then we can in no way be regarded as reflecting upon his late Majesty when we say that a retrospect of his reign must always be marred for women by the record of the last four years. But on a Liberal Ministry, and on that alone, rests the blame. It is the names of the Liberal Cabinet that will stand out in history as being responsible for the mediæval methods of oppression and suppression applied in the twentieth century to women political prisoners.

It will be to the everlasting disgrace of our country if the new reign be stained and blackened in such manner as were the closing years of the late King's rule. But that is for the Government to decide, and not for us. We are asking for liberty, the elementary and undeniable right of self-government. The responsibility for warfare, and all the loss and suffering that it has entailed, rests with the with-holders of that right; with those who, refusing to listen to argument and reason and the dictates of justice, forced us to apply other methods of conviction and persuasion. The Government has still a chance to put itself right with the world, and obliterate its black record. Will it decide for peace or war? The truce we have observed for the last six months has only been a suspension, not a *cessation*, of militant work. And only the full concession of our demand for votes for women on the same terms as men will persuade us to sign a Declaration of Peace.

From the Queen on her Throne to the humblest worker's wife, or lowliest daughter of toil, the women of the country are called upon to give loyalty to the Throne and Constitution, to justify their existence in the community, to bear their share of the world's burden without shirking. No one will contend for one instant—not even the "antis"—that they do not respond to the call in the completest manner. King George's reference to Queen Mary as a "constant helpmate in every endeavour for good" is an expression that is applicable to the great majority of the wives and daughters and sisters of this land.

We claim, then, the just recognition of our services and co-operation. And we demand that it be given *now*. The Government can act, and must be made to act. The last excuse has been met and overthrown completely. "Want of time," "more pressing measures," these well-worn phrases are reduced to an absurdity now that the

rest of the session is absolutely barren of Government legislation. The pressure must be made so great, so persistent, that they dare no longer insult even the patient Liberal women by refusing to deal now with this urgent reform.

Though outlawed and denied citizen rank the women of this land are better patriots and more jealous for the honour of their country than all the politicians who talk so glibly of "our great and glorious Empire" while denying in practice the very principles upon which greatness and Empire are founded, for they desire above all else that the reproach of political slavery shall be wiped out, and Britain made the home of a free and a great people.

And it is as patriots who desire the best for their King and country that they join in the universal acclaim:

Long live the King!

MARION HOLMES.

OPENING OF THE EDINBURGH SUFFRAGE SHOP.

For a long time the Edinburgh Branch has been combining propaganda work with novel and various ways of raising money, always with one end in view—that of ultimately obtaining their own headquarters. They are now in possession of excellent headquarters at 33, Forrest Road, where they hope to hold meetings, sell literature, and give afternoon teas, as well as educate the neighbourhood on the question of "Votes for Women." Suffragists who cannot do active work can help very much by sending beautiful things—pictures, handicraft, photographs, and needlework to be sold in the shop, while gifts of tea, cakes, &c., will be greatly appreciated. The Edinburgh Branch, having successfully realised one ideal, have promptly set up another, which is nothing less than to make their shop a living centre for all that is best and most active in the women's movement. They aim at making it a common meeting ground for all lovers of freedom, and they rely on their members to make this ideal a reality too.

On Saturday, May 14th, the shop was formally opened, and a very successful cake and candy sale was held. The members of the Branch had, as usual, responded loyally to the call for help, and the stalls were laden with every variety of cake and sweets—nearly all of which were home-made. Mrs. Thomson presided over the literature, Mrs. Bell and Miss Dundas Grant were at the "soft" goods stalls, while Miss Wood was at the head of the refreshment department, and with her usual excellent management everything went like clockwork. The shop was charmingly decorated under the able superintendence of Miss Jacob. From the banners on the walls to the boughs on the flower stall the green, white, and gold of the League—the colours of spring—brought delight to the eye and hope and encouragement to the heart. The President of the Branch, Miss Sara Munro, opened the shop and the sale, and then the work of buying and selling went merrily forward till every cake, candy, and flower was sold. In addition to the orthodox tea-room the cellar had been transformed into a Holloway "cell," where hungry folk could be "taken in" for sixpence. There, too, in a dark corner the hidden secrets of the future were brought to light for the modest sum of three-pence.

It is impossible to thank all those who worked so well to make the sale a success. The fact that it was a success will be the best thanks they can have. Nevertheless, special praise should be given to Miss Jack, Hon. Sec., and Miss McLachlan, Hon. Assistant Sec., who have given up all their leisure time to the work, and whose energy and enthusiasm are inexhaustible.—MADGE TURNER, Organiser.

MRS. HOW MARTYN

The latest news of our Hon. General Secretary says that she expects to reach England May 22nd, and to be at the office as usual May 23rd. She was on her way home, but was unfortunately detained in Lucerne by the serious illness of her father.



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Glasgow.

Splendid meetings have been held this week at Maryhill, Bridgeton Cross, and Shawlands Cross, also in the St. Mungo Assembly Halls, where Mrs. Wilson presided over a most sympathetic gathering, and Miss Bessie Semple dealt with the ethical side of the Women's Suffrage movement, and I spoke on the woman's industrial position.

The outstanding feature of our meetings latterly has been the unanimity of our audiences on the righteousness of our cause. Resolutions have been put at almost every meeting, and in each case carried by an overwhelming majority, a forest of hands being raised in favour of votes for women, and never more than five being raised against. In each case none of the opponents has had courage to tell us why he opposed votes for women.—MARGUERITE A. SIDLEY.

£1000 FUND.		£ s. d.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Miss Leggett	0 10 0	Mrs. Nisbet	0 2 6
Mrs. Gordon	0 8 8		
Mrs. Meikle	0 4 0		7 0 7
A. C. Wood, Esq.	5 0 0	Amount previously	
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Miss Connor	0 1 0		
Mrs. J. Anderson	0 5 0	Total	£303 14 5

Dennistoun.

The Dennistoun Branch held its fortnightly meeting on May 5th, when Miss McCallum gave an interesting paper on "The Biblical Side of the Woman's Movement."

Miss McCallum said she had been led to study this side of the Votes for Women question by a gentleman remarking, on being asked to sign a petition for votes for women, at the General Election, that, having been a Christian for fifty years, he could not do it.

The large audience of friends and members were delighted with the interpretations which Miss McCallum gave of some passages from the Bible. The collection was good.—MINA STEVEN, Hon. Secretary.

Edinburgh.—33, Forrest Road.

This week has been devoted to getting our shop "shipshape," and in preparing for the Cake and Candy Sale reported elsewhere. We would remind our friends of our Jumble Sale to be held on Saturday first. Please send your contributions at once, or we will send for them on receipt of a postcard. We want all you can send. We have to thank many kind friends for gifts to the shop and the shop fund, which will be acknowledged next week.

Two members, Miss Muriel Wilson and Miss Thomson, are going to sell THE VOTE every week. Will more of the members follow their splendid example? We want pitches to be taken up all over Edinburgh. Now that the shop is opened members will find plenty of opportunities for helping on the cause; if they will come round to the shop work will be found for them. Remember, *now* is the accepted time. Every single effort is needed *now*.—MADGE TURNER, Organiser.

Dundee.—38, Rankine Street.

A very successful "At Home" was held on Tuesday last, there being a full turn-out of members. The fact of it being the last indoor meeting for the season probably brought many out. Miss Husband presided.

Mrs. Owen Clark, who has acted as interim secretary for the past few months, resigned, and Miss L. Clunas was appointed in her place, Mrs. Clark being accorded a hearty vote of thanks for the work done by her in the interval.

The branch agreed to send a representative to the Women's Procession in London on June 18th inst.

One of our members, Miss Deas, who has been touring in America for the past nine months, then gave a very interesting account of her wanderings. Outdoor meetings were arranged for alternate Fridays and Wednesdays—the Friday meetings to be held at the High School Gate in the city, the Wednesday ones outside, at Invergowrie, Broughty Ferry, and Balmerino. The members were requested to turn out to these meetings and help by selling THE VOTE, distributing literature, taking up the collection, or keeping the children quiet.

As another Suffrage society is holding open-air meetings on Thursday nights, Dundee and district will be made to understand that we are not yet moribund.

Our gallant member, Mr. Winston Churchill, may also get to know that our behaviour is all that even he could wish, and that he will not require special police protection and private detectives when next he visits Tayside.—JEANNIE A. SMART.

SPECIAL CAMPAIGNS.

Ireland.—23, Orchard Street, Londonderry.

Last Saturday night ended a period of wintry weather in the North of Ireland. An enthusiastic meeting in the Diamond, Derry, on that night was broken up by a fierce hailstorm, the crowd dispersing unwillingly. Four splendid meetings have been held in Strabane, where we received a warm and intelligent reception. At the last of these meetings our thanks were due to Mr. MacKay, who very kindly offered his assistance as chairman, and spoke for us eloquently on the "Injustice of Excluding Women from the Electorate." Everything points to a most successful meeting for Mrs. Despard in the Town Hall on May 23rd. The women workers in Strabane are employed under ideal conditions in local spinning mills owned by Mr. Herdman, of Sion, one of the few ideal promoters of industry in Ireland. The interests of his employees are well administered, both in their home dwellings and the workshop.

We are slowly getting hold of the factory girls in Derry since we found out that their disinterestedness in regard to Woman's Suffrage was based on the ignorant assertion that, "because women inspectors had agitated for factory reforms, laws had been passed which curtailed the rights of the women to augment their earnings by night work, &c., in certain departments." They are beginning to learn that it is not because women have agitated for needful reforms, but that because the laws have been administered by legislators who have not duly considered the needs of the workers. The night meetings are growing in size and interest.

Everything promises success for Mrs. Despard's visit to Derry. Mrs. Cope has generously consented to speak at the afternoon meeting on Tuesday, May 24th, and is coming up specially from Armagh to do so. I wish particularly to mention that I shall be glad to hear from any Irish sympathisers desirous of taking part in the great London Procession. Particulars of trains, &c., to be had from me at above address.—K. J. COYLE.

Portsmouth.—128, St. Augustine Road, Southsea.

Each week sees an increase in the numbers at our meeting outside the Town Hall, as also in the interest and attention shown by the crowd. Last Monday we sold more VOTES than ever before. There was a noticeable absence of irrelevant questions, and the "funny man" was strangely silent. On Tuesday we held our promised meeting at the Co-operative Hall, Gosport, a small but very useful meeting of women, where four new members joined us and two women gave us their names as "thinking about it." Mrs. Slamer, one of our keenest members here, whom I have to thank for a great deal of help and encouragement in the past, is arranging an afternoon meeting for women in the near future. Portsmouth and district friends, please remember the Procession, postponed to June 18th. Times of trains, &c., will be announced later in THE VOTE.—EDITH A. BREMNER.

CHURCH LEAGUE MEETING.

SPEECH BY MISS ABADAM.

At a public meeting held at Essex Hall, Strand, on Tuesday, May 10th, and presided over by the Rev. Maurice F. Bell, Miss Abadam was the principal speaker.

Miss Abadam said that she was aware that they were in the middle of the May Mission of the Church League for Woman's Suffrage, and as she had never attended any mission but she had found that the great question of morals was spoken of, she hoped that she need make no apology to anyone present for speaking quite frankly on one of the greatest evils of the day. It was no astonishment to her when she heard that the Church had formed a League for Women's Suffrage, because the reforms which they so keenly desired would only be won by giving political power to that half of the nation which is, according to statistics, more moral, more law-abiding, and less criminal than the other half which already possessed it. For every one woman there were eight men convicted of drunkenness, and for every woman convicted of a criminal offence there were five men, which proved that men, who made the laws, could not keep the laws, while women, who did not make the laws, did keep them. The great Social Evil, observed the speaker, was very much in evidence. There was such a thing as a woman who wanted for nothing, but who merely had an empty head and an empty heart, and who ended by taking this vicious course. They were not so much concerned with her as with the woman who was driven to degradation by starvation. It seemed amazing that there should be people in this England of ours to-day folding their hands and saying, "All is well. Peace! Peace!" with this great evil going on at their very doors. In the slums one could see many young girls, possibly friendless, working for starvation wages. That was the price they paid for their honesty—starving, while they could make £20 or £30 per week, perhaps, if they chose to go off the straight road.

Referring to the numerous Suffrage Societies springing up all over the country, Miss Abadam said that they were glad to welcome them all, for in this way everyone could be fitted with that harness which best fits them for their work. All were members of the great Woman's Movement.

The question of Economics, observed the speaker, was at the root of the evil she had spoken of. The present conditions could hardly be wondered at when they remembered the number of women working for 2s. 7d., 3s., or 4s. a week, that being all they had between them and the abyss. Speaking with great earnestness, Miss Abadam said: "Don't think I am a visionary. I don't think that we can put an end to vice, but I am positive that, if women had power, we should pretty nearly put an end to NECESSITOUS vice."

Dealing further with the comparative wages paid to men and women workers, Miss Abadam pointed out that, while the women chain-makers, with an output of work the same as the man's, made 4s. per week, out of which they had to provide their own coal and blow their own bellows, the men were paid 16s. per week, and had a boy to blow the bellows for them. They heard people saying that men had higher wages because they kept their wives. They did if they liked, and if they felt disposed to, but not necessarily, and in any case a woman had no statutory right to any portion of her husband's wages unless she threw herself on the rates. If that were the reason why men received higher wages, unmarried men would be paid less, while married women and widows working for large families would certainly be paid at the higher rate. An incident related by the speaker concerned the women workers in a certain biscuit factory. The chief manager had instructed his assistant that, whereas up to that time the women had been paid 8s. per week, they were in future to have 6s. only. And if they complained, he added, "simply tell them they can supplement their earnings on the street." The under-manager, being an honest man, threw up his position, saying that he would not take such a degrading message to any woman.

The second cause of the Social Evil, Miss Abadam observed, was, in her opinion, due to the existence of feeble-minded men and women and boys and girls throughout the

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country, and when a girl was a little feeble-minded it was almost impossible for her to get away from such a life. The feeble-minded gave more children to the world than any others. There was a certain amount of activity on the subject at the present time, but they owed it entirely to a woman, and why should women have to pour their whole lives into a thing of this kind when with a mere touch of the political wheel it should be done in a few months?

The third cause dealt with by the speaker was the double standard of morals that obtained for men and women. Where had it come from, she asked. It never came from Heaven. They heard sometimes that the Prince of Darkness was a gentleman; she was inclined to think that he was a political gentleman. At any rate, she felt certain that if he could point to the piece of work he was most proud of, he would point to the time when women were robbed of political power. In the Garden of Eden it was said, "I will put enmity between thee and the woman." There was an eternal antagonism between evil and women, and it was their business to cut woman's chains and give her the power to do what she had always had the will to do—to fight evil with all her might. The commandment said "THOU" (thou man and thou woman) "shalt not commit adultery." It did not say, "Thou man may and thou woman shalt not." How could it be wondered at that there were the scenes enacted which stained the pages of the police news week by week when they had a man in authority, like Sir John Bigham, laying down such a dictum as that?

Speaking of the high infant mortality, Miss Abadam said that this loss of life was attributed, in a great measure, to "wasting diseases," which was only a polite term for a preventable disease, which was increased and kept going by the very immorality she had spoken of. If these were preventable evils, she asked, why were they not prevented? At present there were about 80,000 of their unfortunate sisters on the streets of London alone—pursuing the best-paid trade in the country. No Government had ever made a real effort to stem the cause of this immorality because they were responsible to a one-sex electorate and it would be dangerous to tamper with the pastimes of so many of them; but if women were electors it would be as dangerous to leave the question alone as it now was to touch it. If they could get the age of consent raised for girls, it would do more good than all the rescue work put together. When this question was before the House of Lords one member had given a word of advice to his Peers. It was this: "Take care, my Lords, lest in passing this measure you interfere with the advantages of your sons."

The workers in the great cause of women's freedom, observed the speaker, represented a great dumb constituency of women, poor working women—too poor and too busy to come out and agitate for themselves. She said, and said with great reverence, "Thank God, there are men who come out and fight by our side."

Miss Abadam concluded her most eloquent address with the lines ending "Stand as one till right be done! Believe and Do and Dare!"

ON MY LIBRARY TABLE.

THE CALL OF FREEDOM.*

"Can man be free if woman is a slave?—SHELLEY.

The latest edition of Miss Alice Zimmern's book "Women's Suffrage in Many Lands," which has recently appeared, has the distinction of a foreword from Mrs. Chapman Catt, President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance. She draws attention to the fact that the Woman Suffrage Movement has crept slowly on its way so silently and unobtrusively that many people have not been aware of its existence; now all the world is talking of it, and is asking questions concerning its past, its present, and its future aims. Mrs. Catt does not say why this slow movement has suddenly, or, at least, within the last five years, leaped into prominence, or why it is that the movement now represents a universal awakening of women and a universal appeal to the world to give women political freedom. Miss Zimmern, however, supplies the answer to the question in her chapter on the Suffrage Movement in Great Britain. She gives a short summary of the history of the militant party, and although she evidently holds no brief for militancy, she is absolutely fair in describing the results of the policy of its leaders.

"They considered," she says, "that peaceable methods had failed, and that they must follow the lead of the Chartists, who had to resort to mass demonstrations and open revolt." She quotes from Mrs. Billington-Greig's book, "Towards Woman's Liberty," and recommends those who would understand this new phenomenon to study it in the pages of that little brochure. "Feeling runs so high in England as to the wisdom or unwisdom of the militant tactics," says Miss Zimmern herself, "that it is probably easier for foreign nations to pronounce judgment than for us. On one point all must agree: the new tactics were effective. They have made Women's Suffrage a question of the day. Formerly the newspapers ignored it; now it is the best of copy. . . . Before their advent Women's Suffrage was hardly known to the masses. Now the 'man in the street' is the first to cheer the 'Suffragettes' and wish them success. Foreign papers, too, print long accounts of the doings of the English militants."

The author gives an excellent résumé of the history of the great suffrage movement in this country from the time when, in 1792, Mary Wollstonecraft published her "Vindications of the Rights of Women," down to the present year of grace. She relates how the "Reform" Bill of 1832 added new classes of voters but also deliberately disfranchised the women voters by the insertion of the word "male" before "persons." The *raison d'être* for our present determination to push forward the demand to remove the sex disability is surely here demonstrated. Were an Adult Suffrage Bill to receive the consent of the present Prime Minister there is no shadow of doubt that he and many of his followers would endeavour to follow the precedent of 1832 and insert the word "male" before the word "adult." John Stuart Mill's admirable work in the House of Commons is chronicled, and that of other Suffragists in the sixties. Nor is the historic antagonistic act of Mr. Gladstone forgotten when, in 1883, another Reform Bill was introduced to further extend the franchise, and when, on an amendment in favour of women being proposed, no fewer than 104 professed friends of woman suffrage broke their pledges, under the orders of the Premier. After this, women suffragists in Great Britain appear to have lost heart, for a long period of dull, profitless years followed. Now, however, thanks to the forward policy of the militants, there is fresh life and vigour in the Cause, and the day of victory is even at the dawn.

The account of the Suffrage Movement in America is both interesting and fascinating. In 1787 the women demanded the right of enfranchisement. This was denied them. The first definite impetus to action, says Miss Zimmern, was given by the Anti-Slavery Campaign, into which American women threw themselves with ardour and

* "Women's Suffrage in Many Lands," by Alice Zimmern. Published at 13, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C. (Price 1s. net.)



SUFFRAGETTES AT HOME.
(10) Miss Gill (Hampstead Branch) Home Dressmaking.

enthusiasm. Sarah and Angelina Grimke, daughters of a wealthy planter of Charleston, South Carolina, emancipated their slaves in 1828, and went north to lecture on the evils of slavery. Other women rallied to their side, and not the least part of the work which paved the way for emancipation was due to them. In 1848 the first Women's Convention was held, and at that meeting a declaration was adopted, based on the celebrated Declaration of Independence.

The third impetus to the great movement was in 1861, when the war between North and South broke out. The magnificent work of the women during that great war—the labour they accomplished, the hardships they endured, the time and strength they sacrificed—was enough in itself, says the author, to refute for ever what is sometimes called the war argument against Women's Suffrage. "When the war was over, and the slaves emancipated, the next step was their enfranchisement. Uneducated, ignorant men of an alien race, untrained and unfit to take up such grave responsibilities, were now to help govern the country; while the women who had worked with all their hearts to promote their emancipation, who had borne their full share in the sufferings of the war and the attainment of victory, were to stand aside to make room for the black voter. In vain they asked that the amendment to the Constitution which enfranchised the negroes should be so worded that neither colour nor sex should be a barrier. 'This is the negro's hour,' was the cry on all sides; 'let us do our duty to him first; perhaps some day he may help you in his turn.'" With the exception of the four States of Wyoming, Colorado, Idaho, and Utah, where women are admitted to the poll, America's door of political emancipation is still closed to women. The revival of interest in the suffrage movement has, however, now spread to the United States. The workers are rallying to the cause, and all is hopeful activity.

The story of how the women of Norway won the vote is refreshing reading. The movement dated back from the early thirties. From the granting of the Municipal Franchise in 1884 there was steady advance, and on June 14th, 1907, the Women's Suffrage Bill was carried by 96 to 23 votes. The Finnish struggle, in which the women were so admirably supported by the men, is told

in graphic language, and the story of the battle fought and won for Freedom in Australia and New Zealand is both encouraging and stimulative. Miss Zimmern traces the history of the great work for women's freedom in many other countries, including Sweden, Denmark, Iceland, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, Hungary, France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Russia, Poland, Bulgaria, Servia, Canada, and South Africa. No woman who has the suffrage cause at heart can afford to be without this excellent little work of reference. To speakers and writers it will be invaluable.

LOUISA THOMSON-PRICE.

CONCERNING ANTI-SUFFRAGISTS THE SCOTTISH VARIETY.

To the Editor of THE VOTE.

Dear Madam,—I beg that you will allow me the courtesy of your columns in order to call attention to the alarming activity of the Anti-Suffrage League. A fresh manifestation of this activity recently came to my notice in Glasgow, where, with other members of the Actresses' Franchise League, I was engaged in giving theatrical performances at the recent successful exhibition organised by the W.S.P.U.

Among other methods of advertisement the organisers of the exhibition had engaged large push carts which traversed the streets bearing posters displaying the names of speakers and performers at the theatrical entertainments, a method which doubtless commended itself to the watchful intelligence of the Antis, since one afternoon, in walking along Sauchiehall Street, I came upon an imposing procession of two push carts—the first displaying the exhibition announcements, the second setting forth in large letters the existence of a Scottish National Anti-Suffrage League for opposing votes for women, and giving the address of its office as 180, Hope Street, Glasgow.

Let me frankly admit that this daring attempt to carry the war into the enemy's country took my breath away for the moment. Only, I hope, for the moment. The next I pulled myself together and decided that a bold front must be presented to the attack—that we must not allow the enemy to suppose that suffragists were to be overawed by a push-cart—that, in short, we must accept the challenge thrown down and beard the Antis in their den. Filled with this high purpose, I addressed myself to a fellow member of the Actresses' Franchise League—Miss Edith Craig—and together we decided to call at the address which had burnt itself into my brain—180, Hope Street.

The next morning at eleven o'clock found us at the door. Remembering the two large shops in Sauchiehall Street run by the W.F.L. and the W.S.P.U., we had, I supposed, expected that the abode of the Antis would present something of the same appearance; but with characteristic modesty our opponents had decided against a shop front and retreated to a back office, whose whereabouts in the block was indicated only by a brass plate. With firm steps we advanced to the lift, entered it, and gave our commands to the attendant.

"The Anti-Suffrage League, please."
Then came the blow. The attendant paused and withdrew his hand from the rope.

"She's gone out," he said.
It was too true. At half-past ten in the morning the Scottish National Anti-Suffrage League had locked up her office and departed, telling the lift-man that she had no idea when she should be back. Was she already exhausted by admitting crowds of new members? or had she been seized with sudden terror at the possible consequences of her boldness in advertising her address—

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realised that it might bring her callers of the wrong sort, and bolted with the cold sweat running down her back? This, alas! we shall never know. We left in disappointment, the liftman watching our departure with a twinkle in his eye. Badgeless as we were—we had purposely concealed the tokens of our faith—I feel sure he grasped that we were not as the Scottish Anti-Suffrage League in her lonely office.

We left her lots of messages. I hope she got them. It must be so dull for her all by herself.

Faithfully yours,

CICELY HAMILTON.

28, Glebe Place, Chelsea, May 12.

OUR ADVERTISERS.

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There is nothing that improves the appearance of a house so much as well-kept walls and stairs. At this season the sun comes out and with its searching light discovers all domestic negligence and worn paint. Of the merits of Paripan, the ideal lacquer enamel—a delightful preparation, concerning which a free booklet will be sent by Randall Bros., 120, Palmerston House, E.C.—we have the testimony of one of our members written to the firm:—

Women's Freedom League (Hampstead Branch), May 5th, 1910.

GENTLEMEN,—Yesterday I finished Paripanning in Paripan glossy white the sides of my two flights of stairs (which are very curly and old-fashioned), and I am writing to tell you how very pleased I am with the result of my work.

I am neither young nor strong, and have had various experiences in amateur painting with the ordinary prepared tins of household paints and enamels, but I have never before used such beautifully prepared stuff as yours, nor put it on with less trouble and worry, in spite of the tiresome character of the ground covered.

For the last nine years this old staircase, being narrow and much used to a first-floor dining-room, has cost us from a pound and more every year for re-painting. This year, through my seeing your advertisement in the Hampstead Tube, it has cost in money only the small sum of 7s. 8d., and bids fair to last for double the time at least.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) ELIZABETH RUSSELL.

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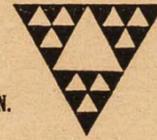
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BRANCH NOTES.

Croydon.—9, Morland Avenue.

The heavy rain on Wednesday evening, May 11th, quite prevented our outdoor meeting at Thornton Heath Clock. We should have felt that Mrs. Nevinson's journey had been lost had it not been that she had spoken in the afternoon at Mrs. Ridley's drawing-room meeting. Those who were fortunate to hear her thoroughly appreciated her able address, which dealt with the pressing need for the vote to enable women to work effectively.—E. T.

Tottenham.

The Tottenham Branch of the W.F.L. held their first "At Home" on Wednesday, May 11th, at Mrs. Harbord's, 91, Mount Pleasant Road. Miss Hicks, of Hampstead, came to speak, and in a very telling address clearly showed the great need there is for the enfranchisement of women. She particularly urged members of the teaching profession (several of whom were present) to come out on the side of freedom and work for this great cause. Mrs. Arklay, of Highbury, kindly came and took the chair, and urged upon all members of the League the great necessity there is of keeping our question always to the fore. A discussion took place after the address, and we hope for several new members as a result of the meeting. Six dozen bannerettes were undertaken by the Branch, and several names were given for the procession of June 18th. We hope to be represented in the John Stuart Mill procession on the 21st.—M. SIMS.

Clapham.—31, Rush Hill Road, Lavender Hill, W.

On May 11th a most successful drawing-room meeting was held at 45, Bolingbroke Grove, S.W., by kind permission of Captain and Mrs. Montagu Yates, to whom we are much indebted. Mrs. Despard gave a most enlightening address, which evidently appealed to the minds and hearts of the ladies present, some of whom had never previously attended a suffrage meeting. The collection was very satisfactory. Enquiry and discussion became general during the very pleasant tea to which our kindly hosts subsequently invited us.—K. M. T.

Northallerton.

The first Suffrage meeting was held in the Town Hall, Northallerton, on Wednesday, May 11th. The speakers were Mrs. Schofield-Coates and Miss Clarke. Miss Clarke spoke first, and dealt with the social and political points, and Mrs. Schofield-Coates spoke more from the moral point of view and on the subject generally. A good collection was taken, and, considering this was the first meeting, it was well attended.—E. CRESSY.

Swansea.—Chez Nous, Sketty, S.O., Glam.

One does not wish to make too much of the work of one's own branch, but now that the Pageant is over I should particularly like to thank all members of the Swansea Branch for the splendid way they have worked all along the line. All ticket-money is not yet in, but from the sums already handed over one can judge of the energy and enthusiasm which have inspired every one of our members.

Last week's branch meeting took the form of a debate between Miss Phipps, B.A., and Miss Nelson, M.A., on the Limited Bill of Adult Suffrage. Miss Neal, Miss Hindshaw, M.A., Miss Holmes, B.A., and Miss Bevan carried on the open discussion. Miss Phipps easily won for the Limited Bill with a majority of 15. It is interesting to note that the local I.L.P. book-shop stocks no Adult Suffrage literature, as "there is no demand for it"; and also the I.L.P. sent no reply to the challenge we sent them to debate the question. This week we have arranged a trial by jury, and for next Wednesday a Parliamentary debate on the Local Government Bill, when all members are specially urged to be present and take part.

We hope to arrange for a contingent of members to go up to London for the great procession on June 18th, who will walk under our beautiful Swansea banner.—M. McLEOD CLEEVES.

Ipswich.—160, Norwich Road.

The outdoor meetings for which we had arranged were postponed owing to the death of our King. Next week, however, we hope to open our campaign, and Miss Bennett has promised to

come and help us. From Monday, May 25th, our clubhouse will be open every day, various members having promised to be in charge. Anyone wishing to hear more about our movement should call, and questions will be answered and literature supplied. We are arranging for a series of "At Homes" shortly. Members and friends are invited to make use of the club for purposes of conversation (preferably Suffrage), and also are urged to initiate meetings; refreshments can always be obtained. THE VOTE is selling well in the market. Copies are also being sold by Mr. and Mrs. Bastian in Hadleigh, Mrs. Milam at Felixstowe, and Mrs. Tippett at Wetherden. We want more volunteers to help work up the meetings at Stowmarket and Felixstowe at which Mrs. Despard has promised to speak. We are arranging for a sandwich parade. Who will help?—CONSTANCE E. ANDREWS.

Battersea.—37, Park Road, St. John's Hill, S.W.

A well-attended "At Home" was held last Monday at Mrs. Duval's, 37, Park Road, Wandsworth. Miss Fennings, whose urbanity and tactfulness are proverbial, took the chair. Mrs. Chapin said when she was in prison she read John Stuart Mill on liberty, a book recommended by the librarian. This was indeed an encouragement. She declared it was all very well for people complaining of our tactics. Susan B. Anthony and Miss Stanton were stoned in America although they did no more than address meetings. Women wanted to clear away the discordant and ugly elements, as the women had done in Wyoming, where they have been voters for twenty-five years, have produced a sober nation, and have obtained many solid advantages for women and children.

Mr. Gugenheim observed that there was an idea abroad that democracy was an ill-clad crowd. Democracy, however, meant the individuals of every class, of men and women, with varying aspirations, ideals, and interests. Everyone ought to have the opportunity of rising by his or her own ability. Mrs. Manson said that with the supposed physical inferiority of women the party men need not fear petticoat government. After all, we had had four queens, and England was under petticoat government for sixty years during Victoria's great reign. Was it not a fact that kings launched battleships and reviewed armies, yet never went into battle! So what became of the argument that women don't fight, when the supreme rulers did not fight? Why were the soldiers not enfranchised who did fight? She hoped everyone would march in the coming great procession to show the Government the women's determination to continue the fight and win the vote.—B. D.

OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

The Church League for Women's Suffrage.

A gloom was cast over the beginning of the May Mission by our national bereavement, but in view of the fact that the meetings of our League are different in character from those of the secular societies, our engagements throughout the week were kept, and were a source of inspiration to us all. Our thanks are due to the speakers, all of whom helped so much towards the success of the mission. The first general council was held on Monday, May 9th, in the vestry of the Chapel Royal, Savoy. Evensong was said at 5.45 in the Chapel, with an address by the Rev. Hugh Chapman. It was decided at the council meeting that the League should join the procession of June 18th under its own banner and colours, and on reaching the Albert Hall should proceed to a short service to be held in the neighbourhood.

During the autumn months a campaign will be conducted throughout the country, when the provinces will have the opportunity of forming branches and of hearing some of the speakers who were with us in London during the May Mission. Further particulars of the C.L.W.S. may be had from the hon. organising secretary, the Rev. Claude Hinscliff, 11, St. Mark's Crescent, N.W.

N.W.S.P.U.

Owing to the death of the King the great procession and Albert Hall meeting have been postponed from the afternoon of May 28th to the evening of June 18th. All other meetings have also been postponed until after the Royal funeral.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

LONDON.

THURS., MAY 19TH.—Caxton Hall. No "At Home."

Finchley. Mrs. Mather's "Lanherne," Grosvenor Road, Church End, 3 p.m. Miss A. Munro.

SAT., MAY 21ST.—John Stuart Mill Celebrations. Cortège and Wreath-laying, 12.45-2. Mrs. Despard. (See Special Bills.)

Caxton Hall, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Ayres-Purdie, Mme. Malmberg, General Sir A. Turner, K.C.B., R.A., Mr. Kenneth Richmond, Mr. Walter Crane, Mr. F. Rutter, Lala Lajpat Raj, Dr. Baillie Weaver.

Harrow, 3 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson.

SUN., MAY 22ND.—Regent's Park, 12.

Finsbury Park, 11.30. Miss Munro.

Brockwell Park, 3 p.m. Mrs. Marion Holmes, Dr. Alice Vickery.

Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer Street, 3 p.m., for employees of Selfridge's and Penberthy. Miss Alison Neilans, Mrs. Marion Holmes. Recitations and music.

Wandsworth Common, 12 a.m.

Battersea Park, 3.30. Mrs. Clanchy.

MON., MAY 23RD. Crystal Palace, Tram Terminus, 7.30. Miss Ethel Fennings and Mr. Victor Duval.

Cavendish Rooms, Mortimer Street, 8 p.m., for employees of Marshall and Snelgrove, Debenham and Freebody, Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Holmes, Mr. E. Duval. Music and recitations.

Mossbury Road, 7.30 p.m.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Cavendish Rooms, 8 p.m. Employees of Peter Robinson's. Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Holmes. Music and recitations.

Croydon Branch Meeting at South Norwood Clock. Speaker, Miss E. Fennings, and as advertisement.

THURS., MAY 26TH.—Queen's Hall, 3 p.m.

1, Robert Street, Adelphi. London Branches Council.

FRI., MAY 27TH.—Holloway. Miss Bissett Smith's, 57, Hillmorton Road, 7.30. Miss Benett and Miss Guttridge.

SAT., MAY 28TH.—Kensington Town Hall, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Manson, Mr. Kennedy. Music and recitations.

MON., JUNE 6TH.—Central Branch, 1, Robert Street, Adelphi, 7.30.

SAT., JUNE 18TH.—Women's Procession. Public Meetings, 8.30, Kensington Town Hall. Speeches. (See page 39.)

Mrs. Despard, when in London, is at the office on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, and will be pleased to see members of the League who wish to consult her.

Workers welcomed at Miss Connell's Studio, 50, Grove End Road, N.W.

THE PROVINCES.

Portsmouth.

MON., MAY 23RD.—Town Hall Square, 7.45.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Elm Grove, 7.45.

FRI., MAY 27TH.—St. Mary's Road, 7.45.

TUES., MAY 24TH.—Ipswich. Miss Benett.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Ipswich. Miss Benett.

WED., MAY 25TH.—West Hartlepool. Mrs. Schofield Coates.

MON., MAY 30TH.—Sheffield. Open-air Meeting. Mr. J. H. Bingham.

TUES., MAY 31ST.—Felixstowe. Hamilton Hall. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Vulliamy.

WED., JUNE 1ST.—Stowmarket. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Vulliamy.

SCOTLAND.

Edinburgh.

TUES., MAY 24TH.—"At Home," 33, Forrest Road, 4-6 p.m.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Open-air Meeting, Central Ward, 7.30 p.m.

THURS., MAY 26TH.—Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Miss Madge Turner.

FRI., MAY 27TH.—Meeting, 33, Forest Road.

TUES., MAY 31ST.—"At Home," 33, Forest Road, 4-6 p.m.

THURS., MAY 19TH.—Rothsay. Pier-head, 3 and 5.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.

FRI., MAY 20TH.—Speakers' Class, The Centre, 6.30.

SAT., MAY 21ST.—Peel Street, Partick, 3.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.

MON., MAY 23RD.—Ibros. Havelock Street, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.

TUES., MAY 24TH.—Alexandra Park Gates, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Speakers' Class, The Centre, 6 p.m.

THURS., MAY 26TH.—Queen's Park Gates, 7.30. Miss Marguerite Sidley.

IRELAND.

Derry.

THURS., MAY 19TH.—Carlisle Square, 1 p.m.

SAT., MAY 21ST.—Diamond, 8.15 p.m.

TUES., MAY 24TH.—MRS. DESPARD, St. Columb's Hall, 3 p.m.

WED., MAY 25TH.—MRS. DESPARD, St. Columb's Hall, 8 p.m.

FRI., MAY 27TH.—Diamond, 8.45 p.m.

SAT., MAY 28TH.—Carlisle Square, 1 p.m.

Diamond, 8.45 p.m.

Strabane.

THURS., MAY 19TH.—Town Hall Square, 8 p.m.

FRI., MAY 20TH.—Town Hall Square, 8 p.m.

MON., MAY 23RD.—MRS. DESPARD, Town Hall, 8 p.m.

MON., MAY 30TH.—Drawing-room Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers, Miss Coyle and Miss Osborne.

Market Square, 8 p.m.

TUES., MAY 31ST.—Market Square, 12.30 p.m.

Market Square, 8 p.m.

Coleraine.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Town Hall Square, 1 p.m.

MRS. DESPARD, Café Hall, 2.45 p.m.

WED., JUNE 1ST.—Town Hall Square, 8 p.m.

THURS., JUNE 2ND.—Café Hall, 8 p.m. Speakers, Miss Coyle and Miss Osborne.

Portrush.

FRI., JUNE 3RD.—Esplanade, 3 p.m. and 8 p.m.

SAT., JUNE 4TH.—Drawing-room Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers, Miss Coyle and Miss Osborne.

WALES.

WED., MAY 25TH.—Dynevor Schools, 8 p.m. Local Government Debate.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

MANCHESTER Branch Meeting, Thursdays, 7.30 p.m., at 9, Albert Square (Office of Women's Trades Union Council).

CROYDON BRANCH.—A Jumble Sale will be held towards the end of June. Members and Friends are asked to contribute. Parcels may be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mrs. E. Terry, 9, Morland Avenue, Croydon.

CLAPHAM BRANCH.—Meeting at Battersea Public Library on May 21st Postponed. All Members and Friends are urged to attend the Caxton Hall Meeting that evening.

CENTRAL BRANCH.—Members, please note Change of Meeting Night, commencing June 6th, First and Third Monday in each month.

"THE VOTE" DIRECTORY.

(For Addresses see Advertisements.)

- | | |
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