

VOTES FOR WOMEN.

EDITED BY FREDERICK & EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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which we believe would be of the greatest interest to our readers.

How Readers Can Help.

The change we have sketched out above, rendered necessary by the growth of the movement, and justified by the rapidly growing circulation of the paper, will add considerably to the financial cost of the enterprise, and it is therefore particularly incumbent upon all those who are interested in the movement at this time to do their best to help the paper—firstly, by increasing its sale; and, secondly, by assisting its advertisement revenue. In her leading article on page 312 Mrs. Pankhurst sketches out several of the ways in which assistance can be offered. We are confident that our readers will lose no time in availing themselves of these opportunities of helping the cause.

At the Queen's Hall.

On Monday last, at the weekly At Home at the Queen's Hall, friends of the movement had the pleasure and privilege of hearing an address by Mr. Forbes Robertson, which will long remain in their memory, both for his clear and lucid exposition of the cause and for the generous expression of his views. They will be delighted to know that Mr. Robertson has promised that this will be by no means the last occasion on which his voice will be heard from one of our platforms. The Queen's Hall was filled on Monday to overflowing, and not a single seat on the floor, grand circle, orchestra, or gallery was unoccupied. Mrs. Pankhurst took the chair, and the collections and promises amounted to a sum of about £90, including £5 promised by Mr. Forbes Robertson himself and £5 from Miss Gertrude Elliott and £1 by Miss Decima Moore. We are glad to draw our readers' attention to the fact that next week at the Monday afternoon At Home they will have the pleasure of listening to Miss Lillah McCarthy.

At Bow Street.

At the same time that this enthusiastic gathering was being held in the Queen's Hall women were standing before the magistrate at Bow Street, charged with obstruction of the police. The sentence of one month's imprisonment in default of finding sureties and being bound over to be of good behaviour was accepted by Mrs. Clarke, Miss Douglas Smith, Miss Dallas, and Mrs. Satterley. These women have gone to prison in consequence of the refusal of Mr. Asquith to see a deputation in the properly constituted manner. As Mrs. Clarke said to the magistrate, "Is it not time that some other method were found of dealing with this question than by sending the women taking part in it to prison?" This sentiment will find an echo in the hearts of men and women in all parts of the country. And the unanimous verdict of posterity will be that of amazement at the obstinacy and blindness of the Liberal Government which refuses to see any other way of ending the conflict.

Interesting Items.

It is only possible to refer briefly to the other interesting events of the week. A W.S.P.U. deputation waited on Mr. Renwick in Newcastle, and drew from him a promise of support. Mrs. Drummond has gone up to Scotland to take charge of the by-election campaign in Forfarshire. Protests have been made at meetings of Cabinet Ministers in London, in Leeds, and in Nottingham. At Nottingham Mr. Churchill decided to exclude women from his meeting, and refused to see a deputation of women Liberals. He, however, agreed to have a special At Home for women, where it was understood he would speak; discovering, however, that Suffragettes were present he hurriedly left the hall. The Conservative Franchise League have been holding meetings in Glasgow and Edinburgh. An announcement has been made that a meeting of the Actresses' Franchise League will take place to-morrow afternoon at Clifford's Inn Hall, Fleet Street, E.C., at 3 p.m.; to this members of the N.W.S.P.U. have received a cordial invitation. An announcement is made that all cases arising out of the militant agitation are, "for administrative reasons," to be tried at Bow Street. It seems somewhat extraordinary that, in spite of the fact that the Government have refused to admit that these are political cases, they are for the future to be tried in a special court.

Articles and news contributed for insertion in "Votes for Women" should be sent to the Editors at the earliest possible date, and in no case later than first post Monday morning prior to the publication of the paper.

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

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The paper can be obtained from all newsagents and bookstalls.

DEDICATION.

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

THE OUTLOOK.

It is with very great pleasure that we announce to our readers this week the transference of the proprietorship in VOTES FOR WOMEN from ourselves to the National Women's Social and Political Union. It was as an experiment that, fifteen months ago, we started this paper. To-day that experiment stands fully justified by events. In the course of this short time we have witnessed the increase in the circulation from 2,000 copies a month to 15,000 copies a week, and we have been able to effect many developments in our original venture. As a result of the new departure which we announce to-day, we look forward to a still wider future of usefulness for VOTES FOR WOMEN.

Enlargement of the Paper,

We are happy to be able to announce to our readers a further decision, which we are sure will give general satisfaction. Commencing next week, the normal size of the paper will be twenty-four pages instead of sixteen. The present pages have proved all too few for the requirements of the rapidly growing movement. Time after time we have been obliged to crowd out of our columns interesting articles and items of news which we should have liked to have inserted. Further than this, we are aware that, owing to the very large number of men and women who have become interested in the movement during the last few months, we have many readers who are anxious to have presented to them from time to time some of the more elementary facts about the movement. We hope that in future, owing to the extension of space, we shall be able to find room for these things, and also for many other new features

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

To-night, in London, there will be the usual At Home at 8 p.m. in the St. James's Hall, Great Portland Street, to which all members and friends are welcome. A special invitation is addressed to workers, who if they wish can come straight from their work, as morning dress is worn. At Homes are also held each week throughout the country, particulars of which will be found on pages 314 to 316. A cordial welcome is extended to all. Among the special meetings this week are those addressed by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence at the Brondesbury Hall to-morrow, by Mrs. Pankhurst at Torquay on Monday, and by Mrs. Pankhurst at Plymouth on Wednesday.

Miss Lillah McCarthy at the Queen's Hall.

On Monday next, at the Queen's Hall, at 3 p.m., Miss Lillah McCarthy has kindly consented to speak. Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will be in the chair, and Miss Christabel Pankhurst will also address the audience. Prior to the meeting there will be an organ recital by Mrs. Layton, F.R.C.O. Admission is quite free to all parts of the hall, and strangers are welcome. Owing to the growth of these weekly At Homes a larger number of stewards are required than formerly. Any women able to help in this way are requested to get into communication with Miss Jessie Kenney, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. On Monday afternoon, February 15, at the Queen's Hall is not available, the usual weekly At Home will be held in the Scala Theatre, Charlotte Street, which is a few minutes' walk from the Queen's Hall. On February 22 and subsequent Mondays the At Homes will be held, as usual, in the Queen's Hall.

Lectures in the St. James's Hall.

On Tuesday evening, February 16, a lecture will be given in the St. James's Hall at 8 p.m. on "The Opening of Parliament" by Miss Chrystal Macmillan, who recently fought the Scottish graduates' case in the House of Lords. As Parliament is actually opened on this day, Miss Christabel Pankhurst, who will take the chair, will deal with the King's Speech, which will have been read on the same afternoon. Tickets for the lecture, which may be obtained of the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C., are 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d.

Miss Elizabeth Robins.

On the following Tuesday, February 23, at 8 p.m., in the St. James's Hall, Miss Elizabeth Robins will deliver a lecture dealing with the question of "Shall Women Work?" Mrs. Pethick Lawrence will take the chair at eight o'clock. Tickets, price 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d. can be obtained from the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C.

The Women's Parliament.

The following day, Wednesday, February 24, a Women's Parliament will be held in the Caxton Hall, Westminster, at 7.30 p.m. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Pankhurst. Tickets, for women only, can be obtained at 1s. and 6d. from the Ticket Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, W.C. From this meeting a deputation will go to try and interview the Prime Minister on the question of the Enfranchisement of Women.

Self-Denial Week.

It has been decided to hold a Self-Denial Week, from February 27 to March 6, for the purpose of raising funds for the campaign of the Union. Following upon the successful result of this week last year, it is hoped that a very large sum may be forthcoming.

Exhibition in the Prince's Skating Rink.

On page 310 an article is published giving particulars of the arrangements for the great Exhibition in the Prince's Skating Rink from May 15 to 26, so far as they have been at present arranged. From this it will be seen that many friends are coming forward to give their assistance to ensure the success of the Exhibition. The Exhibition Secretary, N.W.S.P.U., 4, Clements Inn, will be glad to receive, at the earliest opportunity, promises of further support, in order that she may be in a position to know how preparations are going forward.

Women as Race Builders.

At the request of several of our members, the article by Mrs. Pethick Lawrence in the issue of January 21, "Women as Race Builders," has been reprinted as a leaflet, and can be obtained of the Woman's Press, 4, Clements Inn, W.C., at the usual rate—9d. per 100, 6s. per thousand, post free.

THE FORFARSHIRE BY-ELECTION.

The Forfarshire constituency is an agricultural one, containing no towns of any size, but a number of small villages. Trains are inconvenient, and we therefore require special means of transit. For this purpose I wish to make a strong appeal, more especially to Scottish women, for a motor-car or for the necessary money to pay for the hire of one. Then we need women as speakers, bill-distributors, literature-sellers, and for many other kinds of work.

I shall be pleased to hear from prospective helpers, as we are opening our campaign at once. Success depends upon you. If you help us there is no doubt as to what the result of the election will be. The issue must be "Votes for Women," and hard work on our part will make it so.

Flora Drummond.

PROGRAMME OF EVENTS.

Feb. 4	Edinburgh, Reception, Soc. of Arts Hall, 117, George St. Paignton, At Home, Masonic Hall Manchester Square, W., Drawing-room meeting Bristol, Broad Quay	Miss Macaulay; chair, Mrs. Maxton Graham Mrs. Elsie Ball, Mrs. Hook Mrs. Pankhurst	3.30 p.m. 4 p.m. 5.30 p.m.
	Aberdeen, At Home, 413, Union Street Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath Street Paignton, At Home, Shop Assistants, Masonic Hall London, At Home, St. James's Hall	Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth Miss Flatman, Miss C. Ogston Miss Conolan Mrs. Hook, Miss Ball Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss Christabel Pankhurst	7.30-9.30 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
Fri. 5	Salford Corps, at Miss McGrath's, 3, Adelphi Ter. Edinburgh, 21, Shandwick Pl. Edinburgh, St. Clair Works	Miss Macaulay Miss Macaulay; chair, Mrs. Ivory	8 p.m. 1.45 p.m.
	Tolnes, Open-air meeting Plymouth, Royal Hotel Aberdeen, 413, Union Street Bristol, Assembly Rooms, Stokes Croft London, Brondesbury Hall Plymouth, Treville St. Hall Camberwell, Masonic Hall Manchester, At Home, Onward Buildings, Deansgate Bradford, Workers' meeting, 61, Manningham Lane Paignton, Members' meeting Glasgow, At Home, Charing Cross Hall Brixham	Miss Ball, Miss Canning Speakers' Class, Miss C. Ogston Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth Mrs. Pethick Lawrence Miss Howey and others Miss Joachim Miss Mary Gawthorpe, Mrs. Rigby Miss Marsh	3.30 p.m. 4.5 p.m. 7.30-9.0 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
Sat. 6	London, Y.H.B. Social, Alan's Tea Rooms, 263, Oxford St. Manchester, Fallowfield Corps, at Miss Robinson's, Brinsley Villa, Brook Road Birmingham, Clarion Scouts, Stafford Street	Miss Macaulay, Miss Conolan Miss Ball, Miss Canning, Miss Beard Mrs. Pankhurst	8 p.m. 3 p.m. 3 p.m. 4.30-6.30
Mon. 8	London, At Home, Queen's Hall Aberdeen, At Home, Round Room Music Hall Torquay, Bath Saloon Bristol, At Home, Victoria Rooms Torbay, Hotel Torbay, Social Edinburgh, Voluntary workers, 100, Hanover St. Birmingham, Elkington St. Council School Sunderland, Congregational Church Literary Society Manchester, Onward Buildings Leeds, Trinity Wesley Guild, Roundhay Road Bristol Horse Fair	Miss Gladice Keovil Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst Miss Flatman Mrs. Pankhurst Mrs. Annie Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth Mrs. Pankhurst Miss Macaulay	8.30 p.m. 3.5 p.m. 3.5 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
Tues. 9	Birmingham, At Home, Priory Rooms Mossley, Mechanic's Hall Huddersfield Liverpool, At Home, 48, Mt. Pleasant Oxford Newcastle-on-Tyne, At Home, Crosby's Café, Northumberland Street	Mrs. Duncan's Lecture, Admission 6d. Miss Crocker Miss Annie Kenney, Miss Vera Wentworth Miss Gladice Keovil	8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8-10 p.m.
Wed. 10	Paignton, Masonic Hall Birmingham, At Home, Edgbaston Assembly Room Kensington, At Home Wolverhampton, St. Peter's Institute Plymouth, Guildhall Leeds, At Home, Arts Club Edinburgh, At Home, Green Cafe, North Bridge Eccles Corps, Mrs. Kenyon's House, Victoria Crescent Huddersfield, Drawing-room meeting	Miss Mary Phillips Miss Isabel Seymour Mrs. Atkinson, Miss Mildred Atkinson Members' sewing party Miss Gladice Keovil Kensington W.S.P.U. Miss Gladice Keovil Mrs. Pankhurst Miss Macaulay	8 p.m. 3.5 & 8-9.30 p.m. 3.7.30 p.m. 3.30 p.m. 4.5 p.m. 7.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
Thur. 11	Edinburgh, Reception' Soc. of Arts Hall, 117, George St. Paignton, At Home Aberdeens, At Home, Crown Mansions, 413, Union St. Newcastle-on-Tyne, Socialist Society Glasgow, At Home, 141, Bath Street London, At Home, St. James's Hall Darwin, Debating Society Dartmouth, Open-air meeting Aberdeen, Speakers' Class, 413, Union Street Plymouth, Treville St. Hall Liverpool, Sun Hall, Kensington, Public meeting Manchester, At Home, Onward Bldgs., Deansgate Crouch End "Ye China Cup," Park Road Bristol, Colston Hall	Miss Macaulay Miss Elsie Ball and others Miss Flatman Miss Mary Phillips Miss Conolan, Miss McPhun Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss Christabel Pankhurst Miss Elsie Ball, Miss Mills	3.30 p.m. 4 p.m. 7.30-9.30 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
Fri. 12	Plymouth, Public meeting Manchester, At Home, Onward Bldgs., Deansgate Crouch End "Ye China Cup," Park Road Bristol, Colston Hall	Miss Howey and others Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gawthorpe Hornsey W.S.P.U.	8 p.m. 8 p.m. 8 p.m.
Sat. 13	Bristol, At Home, Victoria Rooms Preston, Public Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, Miss A. Kenney Mrs. Pankhurst Miss Christabel Pankhurst, Miss Mary Gawthorpe	3.30 p.m. 8 p.m.

IMPORTANT FUTURE EVENTS.

Feb. 16	London, St. James's Hall, Lecture	Miss Chrystal Macmillan	8 p.m.
23	London, St. James's Hall, Lecture	Miss Elizabeth Robins	8 p.m.
23	Birmingham Free Trade Hall	Miss Christabel Pankhurst	..
24	London, Caxton Hall	Women's Parliament	..
Mar. 1	Newcastle-on-Tyne Town Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst	..
21	Manchester Free Trade Hall	Mrs. Pankhurst, Miss M. Gawthorpe	..
My13-26	Prince's Skating Rink	Exhibition and Sale of Work	..

THE HISTORY OF THE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT. By SYLVIA PANKHURST. XLII.—Opening the 1907 Campaign.

We saw last time that, in order to call attention to the urgent need for women's enfranchisement, a body of Lancashire Suffragettes attempted to hold a meeting outside the Strangers' Entrance to the House of Commons; that five of their number were arrested, and on refusing to pay fines of 20s. each were next morning sent off for fourteen days' imprisonment in Holloway Gaol. These imprisonments served only, as we saw further, to spur the women on to greater acts of daring, and but two days were allowed to pass before a second attempt was made to hold a meeting of protest against the Government's inaction, and this time it was not outside but in the Lobby of the House of Commons. On this occasion ten women were, as we know, arrested, and sentenced to fourteen days' imprisonment; but still the Women's Social and Political Union felt that something more must yet be done to arouse the House of Commons from its apathy and to call the attention of the country to the refusal of the Government to give women the vote before the Parliamentary Session closed.

Therefore, on December 20, three days after the last demonstration, on the final Parliamentary working day, Mrs. Drummond led a third attack, and about eight o'clock in the evening succeeded in entering the House of Commons through Palace Yard, and arrived by way of the back passages, within a few yards of the sacred chamber itself. Here she was captured by the police, but she resisted their efforts to remove her with such determination that one of the policemen was heard to say: "I wish the members of Parliament would come here and do their own dirty work!"

While this was going on a little band of Suffragettes had made their way into the Strangers' Lobby, and first Miss Ivy Heppell, a teacher from Liverpool, had sprung upon one of the seats near the Russell statue and begun to speak on Votes for Women, and when she had been dragged down by the police Miss Martha Jones and then Miss Annie Fraser, of Glasgow, and Mrs. Hill, of Cardiff, had followed, and each in her turn had been first ejected, and then arrested and taken in custody to Cannon Row Police Station. Here they were bailed out by "little Miss Mary Gawthorpe, the good angel of the story," as the *Standard* called her, and escorted by her in triumph to the headquarters at Clements Inn.

Next day Mrs. Drummond and three of her companions met the same fate as the women who had taken part in the two previous demonstrations, for Mr. Horace Smith imposed fines of 20s. upon them, and on their explaining that they could not conscientiously pay ordered them away to prison for fourteen days. Mrs. Hill's sentence was heavier, for she was one of those who had been sentenced for taking part in the demonstration of the 17th. Against her will her fine had been paid on that occasion by her brother, and as she had therefore come forward to protest a second time, she was now ordered either to pay a fine of 40s. or to go to prison for twenty-one days. She chose the latter alternative.

As the evening paper boys were eagerly crying the news that another five women were gone to join those already in prison and that twenty-one women Suffragists would now be spending their Christmas there, Parliament rose for the holidays, and as the members left the House the comrades of the imprisoned women handed each one an envelope inscribed:—

"What a woman really wants for a Christmas box."

Inside was a small slip bearing the words—

A VOTE.

Many of the members of Parliament read it smilingly, for they were as yet very far from realising either the strength of the dauntless and passionate enthusiasm that was the mainspring of this women's movement, or the serious urgency of the Cause for which the women fought. It was pleasanter for members of Parliament to jeer and scoff at the women and to heap ridicule upon all that they did than to confess that they themselves might be to blame for the apathy and indifference which had allowed them to leave the pledges they had made to women unredeemed, and it was very much easier for Liberal members especially to laugh and joke about the women's "desire for martyrdom" than to blame the Government under which they served because it had preferred to employ methods of coercion against its women opponents than to give them the vote, and thus put its own professed principles into practice.

But, in spite of all their laughing and scoffing at the women's movement, even the Liberal members of Parliament could not help being somewhat moved by it, and on December 23 a number of Liberal members of Parliament, who were favourable to woman suffrage, met together in the House of Commons and formed a committee, whose objects were:—

1. To press upon the Government and the House of Commons the necessity for extending the franchise to women on the same terms as to men during the present Parliament. 2. To educate public opinion on the question, and especially to advocate it when addressing meetings in the constituencies. 3. To take Parliamentary action on every possible occasion, and to induce as many members as possible to ballot for the introduction of a Suffrage Bill or motion next session.

For the first batch of Suffragists to be released in January a Christmas dinner was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence at the Holborn Restaurant, where the ex-prisoners were able to tell their friends and comrades in the Suffrage cause what Christmas Day is like in Holloway. The Suffragettes were at that time supposed to be treated as first-class misdemeanants; but how greatly the treatment meted out to them differed from that accorded to male political offenders may be gathered from the fact that their food on Christmas Day consisted of 6 ozs. of dry brown bread and a pint of tea for breakfast, 6 ozs. of bread and a pint of soup and 10 ozs. of meat for dinner, and 6 ozs. of bread and a pint of cocoa for supper—all badly cooked, and the dinner served in dirty and dingy pewter tins. The prisoners had to eat their food with a wooden spoon, and to cut their meat were supplied with a small, blunt tin knife, but no fork. They occupied cells exactly like those of the second and third class prisoners, which were exceedingly badly ventilated and insufficiently warmed.

On the release of Mrs. Drummond and her colleagues a few days later, the first of the public welcome breakfasts that have since become so popular was held at Anderson's Hotel.

On the following January 30 the Home Secretary, Mr. Herbert Gladstone, spoke at a Liberal meeting in the Temperance Hall, Leicester. In the course of his speech he was proceeding to extol the promptitude and care with which the Home Office inquired into the promptitude and care with which the Home Office inquired into the alleged cases of miscarriage of justice, when he was interrupted by Annie Kenney and a band of Suffragettes, who had, as we know, several excellent reasons for disagreeing with him. Mr. Gladstone at first endeavoured to disarm the women by calling their attention to his wife, who was on the platform with him, and saying that she also was a Suffragette, but naturally enough his words produced no effect, and Annie Kenney got up on her seat and began to address the meeting. After she and a number of other women had been ejected, Mr. Gladstone tried to curry favour with the audience by saying that he particularly regretted what had taken place, because his action in regard to the Suffragettes had been to reduce the sentences passed upon them, and to ameliorate their treatment in prison. So far as his own views on women's suffrage went, he had voted for it, and would probably do so again. Mr. Gladstone omitted to mention, however, that though in 1883 he had stated, in reply to a lady who questioned him at a public meeting in his constituency, that the fact of women taxpayers being denied the Parliamentary vote was a pressing grievance, which he hoped would soon be remedied, he had in 1884 voted against the amendment to the County Franchise Bill, which would have given votes to those very women.

On February 4 Mr. Winston Churchill spoke in the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, and secured a quiet hearing from the Suffragettes by giving a promise that he would answer a question on Women's Suffrage before he left the platform. At the close of the meeting he accordingly did so by saying definitely that he would not vote for a Bill to enfranchise women on the same terms as men. He greatly regretted, he said, that earnest, good-hearted women should pursue courses which brought them suffering and humiliation; but God forbid that he should mock them. Adela Pankhurst then rose and expressed dissatisfaction with Mr. Churchill's answer, whereupon the Liberal stewards, who had been waiting their opportunity, and had announced beforehand that they intended to give the women a "rough time," fell upon Adela Pankhurst and Mrs. Chatterton and Mary Gawthorpe, who sat near her, with such violence that in the words of an eyewitness, writing to Christabel Pankhurst, "Your sister got a kick on the temple, Miss Gawthorpe fainted, and Mrs. Chatterton was almost strangled." Another witness wrote: "Last night's affair was terrible. It was a wonder that someone was not killed. Your sister was thrown down and kicked by several men. The attack was really unprovoked. The stewards had made up their minds to do it before the meeting. Your sister has a black eye, Mrs. Chatterton's throat was hurt, and Miss Gawthorpe would have been seriously handled but that some men came to her rescue."

THE COUNTRY WHERE QUEEN MEANS WOMAN.

By EVELYN SHARP.

It is, perhaps, not surprising that the women of Denmark should hold out the hand of friendship to the English "Suffragettes." We have the same Northern blood in our veins and the same passion for liberty, repressed though it may have been. And the country which produced the greatest imaginative writer of modern times should be naturally the one to produce Suffragists; for great dreamers and great revolutionaries always come of the same stock. Besides, you cannot read a story like the "Snow Queen," to name only one, without discovering that Hans Andersen, at least, did not think that woman should be deprived of her vote because she cannot fight. In Denmark I came across none of that quibbling opposition to Woman Suffrage which is based upon a mean depreciation of the qualities of woman. In Denmark the word "woman" does not mean, as in our language, merely the wife of a man (wifman); it means the wife of a king (kvinde, analogous to our word "queen"), and there is a great deal in a name.

It was in Denmark that I found myself at a provincial Suffrage meeting some ten days ago. It was in a little country town, looking rather like the cover design for an English edition of Andersen's fairy tales. There was a ruined castle on a hill and a river at the foot of it that twisted in and out through clusters of streets and gardens and houses, away to the still fiord beyond. Inside the packed hall a woman was speaking in English about "Votes for Women." You might think that here was an end for me of any local colour I might have been seeking on my travels. But the local colour was there right enough, as I felt directly I entered the darkened hall and saw the speaker at the other end of it, mounted on a dais that stood in a bower of flowers and evergreens and plants and small trees, against a background of flags and wax candles. Never in my own prosaic country does a Woman Suffrage speaker look like a Christmas present on a Christmas-tree. You have to go to Hans Andersen's own country to find the fairies openly on the side of the Suffragettes.

I found other local differences, too, between the Danish women's movement and ours, both in the provinces and Copenhagen. In the country where queen means woman, the women, voteless though they be, hold a far more dignified position in politics than they do over here. They do none of the canvassing and electioneering work that our anti-Suffrage members of Parliament so freely ignore when they wish to point out that women are too pure and delicate to enter politics; and I never once heard it suggested in Denmark that the sphere of home is distinct from that of politics, and that women belong exclusively to the one and men exclusively to the other. On the contrary, the connection between the two is frankly recognised, and the opinion of women is not only carefully considered, but is even deliberately sought, when legislation affecting the home is under discussion. Within the last few years the efforts of the Dansk Kvindesamfund, or Danish Women's Association, have resulted in the amelioration of some old laws and the making of some new ones affecting the position of women in the State. Last year, for instance, most of their propositions were embodied in the Act dealing with the rights of unmarried mothers; and it was owing principally to the representations of this union of women that it has now become legally necessary for the consent of the mother, as well as that of the father, to be obtained in the case of the marriage of a child under age. I mention these instances of what has been done in Denmark by the women without the aid of the Parliamentary vote because of the foolish representations that are sometimes made by English anti-Suffragists on this score; and I was very much interested to find that the Danish Suffragists rejected with somewhat scornful surprise the suggestion that either the justice or the expediency of the suffrage demand should be affected by the fact that they already possess some influence over the legislature. They not only feel as strongly as any English Suffragist that indirect influence of this kind is an unworthy makeshift for the full rights of citizenship, and that the possession of the franchise is essential for the full development of women in every direction, but they also point out with great wisdom that such reforms as they have won during recent years would not have been won had not a Government friendly to women happened to be in power.

This has not been the case before, and might easily not be the case again; and they feel with us that, apart from the justice and rectitude of our cause, the only guarantee of efficient legislation for women and children lies in the possession of the Parliamentary vote.

The Danish Women's Association is the oldest society of women in Denmark. It was founded thirty six years ago, primarily for the purpose of obtaining the Parliamentary franchise for women, though, in order to organise the women, especially in the country districts, it was thought necessary also to do a good deal of educational work through the medium of housewifery courses and lectures, etc. They further occupy themselves, as I have shown, in bringing influence to bear upon the legislature in the interests of women. Within the last two years, however, since the holding of a Suffrage Congress in Copenhagen, fresh interest and enthusiasm have been aroused all over the country on the subject, owing chiefly, I was assured, to the news of what was being done in England by the militant section. And, consequently, not only has the Dansk Kvindesamfund now determined to concentrate its energies upon a strenuous demand for the vote, but various other societies, founded only with this object in view, have sprung into existence. The most important of these is the Kvindevalgretsforening (National Suffrage Society), whose membership is increasing daily; and there are other smaller clubs and unions as well, most of them of a party character. These are in most cases affiliated to the Valgrets Forbund (Suffrage Union), which comprises most organised bands of women in Denmark, and was founded by ten ladies some few years ago, when the Suffrage question was suffering in Denmark, as elsewhere, from stagnation. It is the Valgrets Forbund that represents Denmark in the National Women's Suffrage Alliance, which is to hold its second great meeting in London next April.

I found Danish women very hopeful of winning their political enfranchisement, but not immediately. The fear of invasion is occupying the attention of all parties over there, and until the question of national defence is settled—it is estimated that it will absorb Parliament for the whole of this year—it is said that Woman Suffrage cannot be dealt with. Of course, we have heard that sort of story too often over here not to feel suspicious of it; and I scented another danger in the tendency of some Danish Suffragists to attach too much importance to the necessity of proving their municipal capacities first—they received the municipal vote last year, and will exercise it next month—a mistake that we made after 1884. Another obstacle in their way is the necessity for altering the Constitution of 1849 before a Woman's Enfranchisement Bill can be brought in. I should say, from what I saw and heard while I was in their country, that the Danish women will not have to suffer as Englishwomen have done, and are doing, for the sake of their political freedom; but Governments are very much the same in all countries, and I saw nothing to show that in Denmark the Government will offer the women anything for which they have not very persistently agitated. They are, however, now fully prepared to do this; and, with the instinct of the Suffragette to classify every woman she meets either as a militant or a non-militant personality, I mentally labelled a good many of those I met in Denmark as volunteers for danger service should danger service become necessary.

It is most satisfactory of all to learn of the intense admiration that Danish women, and Danish men, too, have for the courage of the Englishwomen who are going to prison for their cause. I was assured too, more than once, that our victory will mean theirs, just as the mere tidings of our militant action has been enough to intuse new life even into their constitutional agitation. But the most difficult point I had to combat was the astonishment of every one, from members of Parliament to the least political of civilians, at the attitude of those Englishmen who can view with equanimity the spectacle of women being thrown out of meetings, and women being thrown into prison. It is a sorry business to be an Englishwoman abroad in these days, and to have to face criticism concerning one's men folk. You may tell the foreigner that all Englishmen are not Cabinet Ministers or Liberal stewards; but, unfortunately, it is the Cabinet Minister who represents his country in the newspapers of other countries. So if I went to Denmark wanting the woman's vote for the sake of Englishwomen, I came back wanting it more than ever—for the sake of Englishmen.

THE FORFARSHIRE BY-ELECTION.

Unionist Mr. R. L. Blackburn.

Liberal Mr. James Falconer.

The figures at the General Election were as follows:—Sir John Sinclair (L.), 6,796; Mr. J. M. Bernard (L.U.), 3,277. Liberal majority, 3,519.

At the general election the Forfarshire electors were called upon to choose between a party professing Liberal principles and a party professing Conservative principles. They chose the former. Now that a by-election is at hand, they have a different question to decide. That question is not whether they prefer Liberal principles to Tory principles, but whether the party they supported at the General Election—the party professing Liberal principles—is really carrying those principles into practice. In other words, those who are entitled to vote in the present by-election, if they are dissatisfied with the action of the Government, should pass a vote of censure upon them by voting against and defeating the Government nominee.

Have the present Liberal Government been true to Liberal principles? Before Forfarshire Liberals answer that question they should hear the women's case against the Government. The women charge the Liberal leaders with being false to the political faith for which they profess to stand. "Taxation and representation must go together; Government should be of the people, by the people, for the people." Have we not here the Liberal creed? Yet Mr. Asquith and his colleagues persistently refuse to accord to the woman taxpayer the Parliamentary vote which ought to be hers, not only by virtue of the British Constitution, but by virtue of the fundamental principles of Liberalism. In vain do we urge women's need of the protection of the vote and the benefit to the nation which would accrue from the co-operation of women with men in the management of national affairs—the Liberal leaders, though most of them are obliged in words to admit the justice of our claim, continue to resist the demand that they shall carry a measure for women's enfranchisement.

Not only so, but they add to this sin against principle and against justice the further wrong of using against the women who are fighting for their political rights measures of repression and coercion. During the three years of Liberal rule, no fewer than three hundred and twenty women have suffered imprisonment for taking part in the militant agitation for the vote, and these women have been denied trial by jury, and, instead of being treated as political offenders, have been punished in the same manner as though they were common criminals. The privileges accorded to the leader of the Jameson Raid and to Mr. Ginnell, who incited to cattle-driving in Ireland, have been denied to the women, who, for want of the legitimate political weapon, have been obliged to resort to militant methods.

That militant agitation began because it was evident that the present Government, like the Liberal and Conservative Governments which had gone before, would not of their own free will give votes to women. The Liberal leaders, before coming into power, declared their intention to redress grievances and promote popular liberty, but on taking office they showed themselves hostile to women's enfranchisement. This roused self-respecting women to indignant protest, and during the past three years there has been waged a determined anti-Government campaign, which will cease when, and only when, the vote is won. In pursuance of this campaign, Cabinet Ministers are challenged at their meetings, and deputations of women attempt to interview the Prime Minister and other responsible Ministers. This work is done at heavy cost to women themselves. Violent ejection from meetings, arrest and imprisonment are but a part of the price which they are paying day by day in the effort to win enfranchisement. They are, however, heartened by the knowledge that their work is telling, and that the Government are feeling the force of their attack.

But Mr. Asquith has given us proof that more fighting is still to do, for in response to a courteous request that he should receive

a deputation of women he sent a direct refusal. Swiftly and firmly women struck a return blow by attempting to make their way into Mr. Asquith's presence. For that action four women are now in prison.

So the struggle continues, and will continue until the Liberal Government abandon their present reactionary policy, and carry the Women's Enfranchisement Bill. That this women's triumph is to come no one can doubt, but how much more easily will it come if the men voters enter into the battle and range themselves on the side of the women! We ask the Forfarshire electors to do this. They can do it by voting against the Government at this present by-election. Let them, by rejecting the Government nominee, express their disapproval of politicians who are guilty both of denying the vote to women, and of punishing the women who demand it. Let them make such use of their vote in this election as shall prove to the Government that they resent this policy of coercion without redress of grievances. In India the Government have punished native agitators, but they have not neglected to grant reform. In dealing with British women, the Liberal leaders act upon the iniquitous plan of imprisoning Suffragists without at the same time giving them the reform which they seek. Such a course of action would disgrace any Government, but is especially unworthy of a Government claiming to be Liberal. Forfarshire electors can prove to Mr. Asquith that public opinion condemns his treatment of women.

The House of Lords.

The Government will call for support in Forfarshire, on the ground that they need the help of the electors in a struggle with the House of Lords. Our reply to this is, in the first place, that the question of Votes for Women is an even greater constitutional issue than that of the House of Lords, because the prime essential is that the House of Commons shall be made representative of all sections of the people, women as well as men. Liberals cannot deny that Mr. Asquith, by his reactionary opposition to Votes for Women, is setting a bad example to the Peers, and is destroying his own right to criticise or condemn them for anything unconstitutional which they may do. We would, in the second place, point out that by voting for the Government nominee the electors are not necessarily helping to solve the House of Lords problem. It is true that Mr. Asquith said at the National Liberal Club some weeks ago that this is the dominant issue, but he quite omits to say how or when he intends to deal with it.

In fact, the Government show themselves very reluctant to enter into a serious conflict with the Upper House. They rail against the Lords for having rejected their most important measures, but when it comes to action they meekly accept the defeat of those measures. The speeches of Cabinet Ministers betray a desire to postpone for as long as possible the promised struggle with the Upper House. Mr. Churchill, in what "The Nation," the Liberal weekly, calls "a disappointing speech," has declared for the policy of continuing in office in order to carry out such a programme as will not rouse the opposition of the Lords. He even encouraged them by suggesting that they are at liberty, if they wish, to reject the Budget. Sir William Robson, another member of the Government, also adopts a humble attitude, and thinks the tug-of-war between the Lords and Commons will come at the General Election after next. His speech moved the "Morning Leader" to say:—

"When a Liberal Minister considers what will happen at the election after next, the cup is surely full. Mere trifling of this sort will dishearten and shake the confidence of the most stalwart and the most trustful."

By raising Mr. Sinclair to the Peerage, with the result that he will sit as Secretary for Scotland in the House of Lords, where he will be free from criticism and control at the hands of the elected representatives of the people, the Government have weakened their own case against the Lords. Also they have committed an act quite inconsistent with their own policy, for when in opposition, the Liberal leaders, Mr. Sinclair included, denounced a proposal to have the Secretary for Scotland in the Upper House.

That important Liberal organ the "Manchester Guardian" sums up the position by proclaiming that the present Government, in its dealing with the Peers, has shown no fight, and has taken no steps to enforce the rights of the Commons against the Lords.

In view of this state of affairs, no Liberal will expect women to accept the excuse that because Mr. Asquith and his colleagues are busy fighting the House of Lords, they are unable to give votes to women.

The issue in the Forfarshire by-election is between the Government who withhold justice and the women who demand it, between the Liberal statesmen who shrink from battle and the women who strive by firmness and courage to deserve success. True Liberals will stand by the women.

Christabel Pankhurst.

THE WOMAN'S EXHIBITION.

The arrangements for the great exhibition to be held in the Prince's Skating Rink by the Women's Social and Political Union from May 13 to May 26 are already in active progress. The response to the appeal of Mrs. Pethick Lawrence is bearing splendid fruit, and a very large number of friends of the Union have already come forward and offered to take their part towards making the exhibition a great success.

In the first place, the decoration and general arrangement of the colour scheme has been placed in the hands of Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, who will carry out the design throughout the whole of the building, and those who have seen and appreciated Miss Pankhurst's work will know that a delightful effect is sure to be produced.

With regard to the exhibits, a number of ideas have already been forwarded to headquarters, and some of these are being undertaken, and others are being considered. It is too early yet to give any details, but from time to time we shall be able to describe the arrangements which are being made.

As announced last week, the whole of the entertainment programme will be provided by the Actresses' Franchise League. Arrangements are being made to set aside a special part of the exhibition for this purpose, and this will undoubtedly prove one of the most attractive and interesting features. It is quite impossible for the Union to express in words how much it owes to the generous men and women who are so kindly offering their services for the purpose.

We have also made good progress with the allotment of stalls to the local unions and to private individuals. The Kensington Women's Social and Political Union have generously offered to take charge of two stalls, which will be of different characters. One will be a general stall and the other a millinery stall. We shall hope to be able to announce in a later issue more particulars as to these. The Streatham W.S.P.U. have also decided to take one stall, and they are making arrangements to devote it almost entirely to children's clothing. Several other local unions are considering the possibility of taking one whole stall or of taking part of a stall together with other local unions; their committees are meeting in the course of the next week or two, and definite announcements will then be forthcoming. The various districts represented by the different campaigns which are being undertaken by the organisers of the N.W.S.P.U. are also making themselves responsible for one or more stalls. Bristol and Bath are going to provide one stall, and Torquay, Plymouth, and Paignton are going to provide another stall. Lancashire will be represented by a stall,

and Yorkshire by another; for the Yorkshire stall special preparations are being made for local commodities; among others there will be a division for Yorkshire foods, such as Yorkshire parkin and home-made pickles, etc. Birmingham has undertaken to supply one stall, and Scotland will also be represented.

We are glad to be able to announce that Mrs. Garrett Anderson, M.D., Mayor of Aldeburgh, has promised to be responsible for one stall. The Writers' League, whose President is Miss Elizabeth Robins, have promised another—a bookstall, which will attract great interest. Our friends the Y.H.B. have undertaken to be responsible for one stall. A sweet stall is promised by Miss Flora Macdonald and Miss M. Thompson, with whom will be associated Miss Leggett. This promises to be very popular. Lady Sybil Smith has kindly undertaken to provide a stall where a speciality is to be made of lamp and candle shades and other fancy articles. Mrs. Thomas is providing one stall. The Misses Beck and Mrs. Marshall and others are providing a novelty in the way of a farm produce stall; their attendants will all be dressed in country costume, and considerable interest will attach to the articles of sale. The following letter from Mrs. Marshall with regard to the matter will be interesting:—

DEAR SIR,—“It is the early bird that catches the worm,” so we are anxious that the Farm and Garden Produce Stall—which is to be an interesting feature of the Exhibition to be held at the Prince's Skating Rink, May 13 to 26—shall have many early birds (in more ways than one), for we want not only spring chickens, but workers of every description—those who will be responsible for a part of the stall, those who will help to sell, those who will help to provide farm produce, such as dead table poultry, ducks, pigeons, new laid eggs, butter, honey, hams, bacon, cream, vegetables and salads, cheeses, home-made jams, chicken food and poultry meals, etc. It is proposed as soon as arrangements can be made to get to business at once, and offers of sittings of eggs or chicks will be gratefully accepted and arrangements will be made for them to be sent direct from the givers to the customers. The Misses Beck, Mrs. Murray, Miss Allan Liddle, Miss Peacock, and others have already promised their support, and friends are requested to send in their names and offers of help as soon as possible to

Mrs. MARSHALL, Hon. Sec., Farm Produce Stall, 4, Clements Inn, Strand.

Mrs. Murrell and Miss C. Turle are offering to supply one-quarter of a stall each. We shall be glad to hear of one or two other ladies who would be willing to complete this. Mrs. East, of Chiswick, is providing a lucky tub. Mrs. Ward Higgs, Mrs. Willock, and Mrs. Lucksmore are each sending goods to the value of £15; Miss Solomon goods to the value of £10; Mrs. Ferguson and Mrs. Edwards goods to the value of £5. A number of other friends are expecting to be able to give us definite promises in the course of the next day or two, so that we hope by our next issue to be able to give further particulars. We shall be glad to hear from those of our friends who are working for any one of the stalls particulars which may be interesting, so that, as far as possible, we may keep our readers informed of our progress week by week.

MR. FORBES ROBERTSON AT QUEEN'S HALL.

It was evident from an early hour on Monday afternoon that something of more than ordinary interest and importance was expected at the Queen's Hall. Groups of women and men began to collect soon after two o'clock, and long before the speaking began the great hall was filled from floor to ceiling with an expectant audience. It had been announced in the Press and by special forms of advertising, described in the London Report (page 314), that the chief speaker would be Mr. Forbes Robertson, a life-long Suffragist, and one of the warmest supporters of the newly formed Actresses' Franchise League. The appearance of the popular actor-manager, who was accompanied by Miss Gertrude Elliott, on the platform was the signal for an outburst of cheering, which was renewed again and again throughout his magnificent speech, delivered with that charm of diction only possible to the orator. The organ recital, which, thanks to Mrs. M. Layton, F.R.C.O., is now a feature of the At Homes, was followed by the singing of a new song, “Votes for Women,” by Miss Cecile Brani.

Mrs. Pankhurst, who presided, made an announcement dealing with the transference of VOTES FOR WOMEN to the N.W.S.P.U. as a “going concern,” and made a stirring appeal for workers for the exhibition in May, and for funds for the Forfarshire bye-election.

Mr. Forbes Robertson then rose and delivered his speech. Beginning with a declaration of faith in woman suffrage, which from the bottom of his heart and soul he regarded as the greatest reform of modern times, he dealt with some of the so-called arguments put forward by the “Antis,” and made a novel comparison of woman's brain with radium, which, he incidentally reminded opponents, was mainly the discovery of a woman. While confessing his inability to understand women who opposed this great reform, he said he could quite understand men's objection to “Votes for women.” They did not like giving up their thrones. He himself had known such moments, but he thanked God he had lived them down, and to the male anti-suffragist he often felt

disposed to say “Kennel!” Let there be a proper horizon for women so that they would not have that unfortunate percentage of females who were always thinking of what the men thought of them. There should be no question of sex. Mr. Forbes Robertson concluded with a remarkable and impressive invocation to the spirits of Mary Woolstonecraft and John Stuart Mill, the vast audience listening in profound silence.

Mr. Pethick Lawrence, who had been at Bow Street, then announced that of the five women who had just gone through their trying ordeal before Mr. Marsham, four had gone to prison for one month in the second division. The announcement was greeted with cries of “Shame!” from all over the hall.

Mrs. Pankhurst, after thanking Mr. Forbes Robertson for his magnificent speech, put the following resolution, which was seconded and supported by members of the audience, and carried with one dissentient:—

This meeting expresses its admiration of the devoted women who have to-day gone to prison for the sake of the enfranchisement of women. The men and women here present are filled with indignation against the Liberal Government, which denies to women the common rights of citizenship, and takes vindictive and repressive measures against the women who are struggling for political liberty.

A copy of the resolution was immediately forwarded to the Prime Minister and the members of the Government.

Cards were then handed in, money and promises amounting to nearly £90. Among the sums given was £5 from Mr. Forbes Robertson, £5 from Miss Gertrude Elliott, the announcement being received with rounds of applause. Miss Mordan, already a most generous contributor, gave £10; Miss Florence Haig, £5; Miss Ayrton, £2 2s.; Dr. Mary Wilson, £2; Miss Evelyn Sharp, £2; and Miss Decima Moore, £1.

Miss Christabel Pankhurst made a stirring speech on the political situation, and urged as practical ways of helping on the movement: (1) Action such as that taken by the women who had just gone to Holloway; (2) protests at Cabinet Ministers' meetings, which entailed violent ejection; (3) participation in the deputation to the House of Commons on February 24, during the sitting of the Women's Parliament. There was nothing now but a fight to the finish.

Arrangements have been made to reproduce Mr. Forbes Robertson's speech verbatim in next week's VOTES FOR WOMEN.

AT BOW STREET.

Sent to Prison for One Month.

The five women who wanted to see Mr. Asquith in Downing Street on Monday of last week were brought up again before Mr. Marsham at Bow Street on Monday last and charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty.

Mrs. Mary Clarke and Mrs. Lucy Norris were the first two to be charged. They called at No. 10, Downing Street, when the Prime Minister was out, and would not believe the porter who told them that the Premier was absent.

A solicitor who appeared for Mrs. Norris said he was quite willing, on behalf of his client, to give an undertaking that her conduct should not be repeated. Mrs. Norris, stating that she acted for the sake of her husband, expressed herself willing to be bound over, and the magistrate accepted her own recognisances in £5 to be of good behaviour for twelve months.

Mrs. Clarke (the sister of Mrs. Pankhurst) was then asked whether she was prepared to adopt the same course. She replied that she could not consent to be bound over. She did not go to Downing Street with the intention of obstructing the police.

Mr. Marsham: It does not matter what your intention was. I have to deal with what you did.

Mrs. Clarke: I went with the intention of asking Mr. Asquith to reconsider his refusal to receive a deputation of women.

Mr. Marsham: He was not in at the time. He has a public duty to perform. The police were carrying out their orders.

Mrs. Clarke: I have a higher duty to perform than to consider the police regulations.

The magistrate referred to the illegal manner in which the agitation was being carried on.

Mrs. Clarke: You must realise, sir, that it is of no use sending women to prison for the part they are taking in this agitation. Over three hundred women have been sent to prison already, and such treatment only makes women more determined. I have been to prison already, and the women whom I saw there (I do not mean those who went there on account of Woman Suffrage, but the ordinary prisoners) made me more resolute than before. I realised that many of them had been brought to that state of degradation by the wrong condition of society at the present time, and this would not be put right until women were represented in the Legislature. I should have thought that the Prime Minister as a statesman would have been willing, that he would have welcomed, a deputation of women in order that he might understand their position. His direct refusal left us no alternative but to protest in the way that we did.

Mr. Marsham: You must take some legal method of bringing about the condition of affairs you are now agitating for.

Mrs. Clarke: But it is a human right to protest against laws that are unjust.

Mr. Marsham: I must order you to find one surety in £10 and to enter into your own recognisance in the same amount to be of good behaviour for six months. In default, one month in the second division.

Mrs. Clarke: I should like you to send me to the first division, to show that you recognise my motives.

Mr. Marsham: I don't think I ought to do that. It must be the second division.

The case against Mrs. Satterley, Miss Smith, and Miss Dallas was then gone into.

The police evidence given last week was repeated and a few details added. The three defendants, it was stated, were driven into Downing Street in a motor-car. The driver said to a constable, “It is all right. It is Miss Asquith.” The defendants, on getting up the steps of Mr. Asquith's house, “rushed into the hall,” Miss Smith succeeding in getting further inside than either of her companions. They all said they would not go away until they had seen Mr. Asquith.

In reply to the magistrate, Mrs. Satterley said she had nothing to say except that she would not consent to be bound over.

Miss Smith: I wanted to go into the council chamber, and I was the woman who went furthest. I did not want to obstruct the police, but to lay before the council the needs and claims of the women.

Miss Dallas: I want to second that. Mr. Asquith refused to see a deputation from our Union, and we wanted to see him.

In reply to the magistrate, the defendants said they declined to be bound over, and Miss Smith added that they were working “for the good of the cause.”

Mr. Marsham: Then you will have to go to prison. I have practically no alternative. This kind of thing has been going on for some time. This is not the way to further your cause. If this conduct does not cease I am afraid there will have to be stronger measures. You cannot be allowed to thrust yourselves upon the members of the Cabinet. You ought to get members of Parliament to lay your views before the House of Commons. Your present

methods are doing you far more harm than good. Each of you will have to find one surety in £10 to keep the peace for six months, and enter into your own recognisances, or go to prison for one month in the second division. I am not sure I am not too lenient. I am sorry you are going to prison, but I cannot help it.

Just before the rising of the Court a lady well known in connection with the Suffragette movement asked Mr. Marsham to reduce the defendants' imprisonment to three weeks, on the ground that during the time they had been on remand, on their own recognisances, they had been precluded from following their usual avocations.

Mr. Marsham said he could not grant the application, and advised the lady to do her best to persuade the defendants to find sureties.

OUR POST BOX.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—May I remind organisers of meetings everywhere at this critical political moment that following immediately on the meeting copies of the resolution passed should be forwarded to all members of the Cabinet (O.H.M.S.) and to local members? Needless to suggest, perhaps, inclusion of Votes for Women in the forthcoming “King's Speech” should always be demanded. I know how easy it is in the busy Suffragette life of to-day to forget this important matter in consequence of a temporary postponement, hence my reminder.—Yours, etc.,

MARY E. GAWTHORPE.

A TEACHER'S VIEW.

To the Editors of VOTES FOR WOMEN.

DEAR SIR,—The President of the Board of Trade addressed a meeting last Friday at Nottingham, from which, with two exceptions, over half of the British tax-paying and governed classes were excluded. One of the two privileged women present was Mrs. Yoxall, the wife of the Liberal M.P. for Nottingham West. Mr. Yoxall is secretary to the National Union of Teachers, and nearly two-thirds of the teaching profession are women, who possess the same academic qualifications as men. I believe a portion of the annual subscriptions to the Union is earmarked for “Parliamentary representation,” so that Mrs. Yoxall secured a privileged position at this meeting, erroneously termed “public,” while a number of the very people who made this favoured position possible were excluded, and harried by policemen, on protesting against such an injustice. Now, sir, as a teacher and Liberal woman, who is compulsorily taxed to pay the very liberal salaries of Cabinet Ministers, I maintain that I have as much right as a man to be present at a meeting when these gentlemen give an account of their stewardship, and as a member of the Teachers' Union for the past twenty years I protest against the attitude towards the enfranchisement of women adopted by the Teachers' Parliamentary representatives. My loyalty to the Liberal party as well as to the Teachers' Union has been considerably strained during the past three years, and I have now decided, unless something effective is done to remove the political disabilities of a large class of educated women, to transfer all my influence and financial help from both organisations to the W.S.P.U., and I trust all women teachers will do the same. In trusting to our so-called Parliamentary representatives we have trusted a broken reed. We must now rely on our own right arm and the lofty aims of our Suffragette leaders.—Hoping to help you considerably in future, yours, etc.,

A DISGUSTED AND DISAPPOINTED TEACHER.

FOR AN ADDITIONAL ORGANISER.

Mrs. Pethick Lawrence has received the following letter:—
“DEAR MADAM—I see in the current number of VOTES FOR WOMEN that you want forty women workers to guarantee 1s. each a week towards the salary of an organiser. I should like to be one of the forty, and as Miss Pankhurst calls thirteen her lucky number I enclose P.O. for 13s. for one quarter, and will send the same amount each quarter this year. I hope your efforts will be crowned with such success that it will not be needed any longer.

A COWARDLY SYMPATHISER.”

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The National Women's Social & Political Union.

OFFICE:

4, CLEMENTS INN, STRAND, W.C.

Telegrams:—"WOSPOLU, LONDON." Telephone: Holborn 2724 (two lines).

Mrs. PANKHURST,

Mrs. PETHICK LAWRENCE,

Founder and Hon. Sec.

Hon. Treasurer.

Mrs. TUKE,

Miss CHRISTABEL PANKHURST,

Joint Hon. Sec.

Organising Sec.

Constitution.

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

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

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

MEMBERSHIP.—Women of all shades of political opinion who approve the objects and methods of the Union, and who are prepared to act independently of party, are eligible for membership. It must be clearly understood that no member of the Union shall support the candidate of any political party in Parliamentary elections until women have obtained the parliamentary vote. The entrance fee is 1s.

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

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

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

OUR PAPER.

Dear Members and Friends of the Women's Social and Political Union,—In October, 1907, Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence issued the first number of VOTES FOR WOMEN. We all felt at the time that a paper was needed to bind the movement together and to present a true picture of our work to the outside world; but the financial risk was great and the responsibility heavy. Taking upon themselves the whole burden of editing the paper and the cost of production, Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence decided to do for the Union what at that time we felt we were unable to do for ourselves.

At first issued in monthly form, it soon became necessary to make VOTES FOR WOMEN a weekly paper; and now, after fifteen months, we are in a position to realise its immense value to our movement. The extraordinary growth of the Suffrage Movement during the last year, the great increase in the funds (without which that growth would be impossible) are due in very great measure to VOTES FOR WOMEN. It has become absolutely necessary to the Union.

The experiment so generously made for us by Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence having succeeded so wonderfully, they, in conjunction with the Committee, now feel that the time has come when the best interests of the paper will be served by their handing over the proprietorship to the Union. They have accordingly arranged that this shall take place as and from January 1 of this year.

In taking over the paper we wish, on behalf of the Union, to thank Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence for establishing the

paper and for so generously handing it over to us, now that its success is fully assured. We desire to assure them, as a Committee, that we shall do all in our power to increase its success.

We are glad to be able to tell that the change which is taking place is not in any way one of loss. Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence have kindly promised to act as editors and managers of the paper, as they have done in the past. It is their hope and ours that still greater developments will be undertaken. VOTES FOR WOMEN is the organ of the Women's Social and Political Union. It is the newspaper of the great agitation which is going, before very long, to win the enfranchisement of women. Above everything, it is the bearer of good tidings to women that there are brighter and grander possibilities in their lives, and in the lives of their children, than they have dared to dream. We shall not rest content until the paper finds its way into every home where there is a woman who is waiting, consciously or unconsciously, for the message we have to give.

It rests with you, members of the Union and readers of the paper, far more than with us, far more even than with our editors, Mr. and Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, to make this hope a reality; it rests with you, every one of you, to work for this result.

There are a great number of ways in which you can help VOTES FOR WOMEN. In the first place, I would suggest to you that where you have taken one copy in the past you should in future take two or more copies, passing the second on to a friend or to an acquaintance, and continuing to do so until you have won an additional subscriber to the paper. You will then be able to transfer your copy to another of your friends, and so on.

In the second place, I ask you to volunteer for the work of selling the paper in the streets of the town in which you live. In London there are several scores of women who take part in this work. In Glasgow, in Manchester, in Leeds, in Bristol, and in other places we have many street sellers. If you live in London, come to the office and ask for Mrs. Drummond. If you live in a town where there is a local organiser, put yourself in touch with her. If you live elsewhere, write to us at 4, Clements Inn. We will give you suggestions as to how to begin.

Then, in the third place, there is a great deal of work to be done by giving up a morning once a week to calling upon the newsagents in your locality and facilitating the sale of the paper through them. If you are willing to help in this way, put yourself into communication with our head office, and you will hear how best your work can be applied.

Then you can help the paper very materially by assisting the Advertisement Department. Encourage those firms that already advertise in VOTES FOR WOMEN by transferring to them at any rate a part of your custom; urge upon the houses at which you deal the importance of being represented in this paper, and if they do not already advertise in it, recommend them to do so.

These are a few suggestions; there are many other ways which you will think of yourselves. Put them into operation, and, when they are successful, write and tell us about them, so that we can lay your success before others and give them the opportunity of going and doing likewise.

We, on our part, have many schemes for developing the paper and widening its range of usefulness. These we are setting about at once, and they will unfold themselves as the weeks go by. We know we have never asked for your assistance in vain, and with our combined work we are certain of very significant results.

We are fully assured that every member of the Union will be prepared to share with us the responsibility we have undertaken.

Yours, on behalf of the Committee,

Emmeline Pankhurst.

VICTORY THROUGH PRISON.

Before we are set free, the Women's Parliament, which meets in Caxton Hall on February 24th, will be over. I know our comrades will on that day do their duty as we have tried to do ours. Let our motto be "Never let I dare not wait upon I would."

MARY CLARKE.

Give my love to my fellow workers and friends, and tell them when they must strike, then strike hard.

K. DOUGLAS SMITH.

The cause needs militant women, and needs them now. We will give them as warm a welcome to Holloway as the authorities allow.

IRENE DALLAS.

Please tell all friends that I am going to prison with the proud thought that I have at least helped to strike a blow at the shackles that bind the womanhood of our country. My only hope is that while I am removed from the scene of action others will come forward to work, and that the cause for which we are fighting will be pushed forward more strenuously.

FRANCES SATTERLEY.

Three hundred and twenty women had gone to prison in connection with women's agitation for the vote before this year began—three hundred and twenty since that memorable day, October 13, 1905, when Christabel Pankhurst and Annie Kenney sent forth into all the world the echoes of their challenge of revolt against tyranny and wrong.

And during this week there have been added new names to that roll. Four women have again entered willingly into bonds in order that the womanhood of this country may become free.

Deeds speak louder than words. Though the voices of these noble women are silenced in prison, their action calls aloud to others to come and follow in their train. Who will be the next to heed and answer this call? Who loves the larger, better life of humanity well enough to lose herself, her social ambition, her ease and comfort, the opinion of her friends for the sake of it?

Deep calleth unto deep, and is answered. There are many who will send back the word to those voices calling to-day from the prison cell: "Here am I. I come."

But there are also doubters who say, "To what end is this sacrifice made? Who cares whether a few women go to prison or not? Certainly not Mr. Asquith and his Government. As for the general public, their attention may be arrested for a day or an hour, but they forget all about it as the next newspaper sensation claims their interest. The game is not worth the candle."

At every stage of the world's history, at every crisis in the eternal battle of truth and freedom against ignorance and tyranny, there have been these "doubting Thomases." Sympathisers, well-wishers, followers of the flag afar off, but for ever shaking their heads over the futility of the struggle.

"Is it worth while?" "Can revolt on the part of women who are politically helpless be effectual?" "Are we getting back anything like a return for the great price we are paying?" These are the questions that I want to answer.

Turn back the pages of history. Read the great stories of how men and women have brought deliverance for humanity after years of struggle and suffering. Take the stories of martyrdom for a religious or moral idea. When they died, those men and women, by cross or sword, or flame, who cared? Not the rulers of the earth; not those who had power over their bodies; not the consenting world, who regarded them as rebels or as fools bereft of reason. When the Scottish peasant girl refused to compromise with her faith, though she felt the tide of Solway Firth creeping up to her lips and overwhelming her young life that had seen barely eighteen summers, was there admiration or pity for her in the heart of her persecutors? No! Only derision for her folly and her obstinacy. Who cared? Not the king upon his throne nor those who did his bidding. Did the sacrifice of her young life bring to an end religious persecution or secure the liberty of conscience for which she died? No! Of perceptible immediate result there was none. Was it worth while, her heroic deed that has made her name to live in the history of her country? Are there any to-day who will answer "No"? Sorrow was added to sorrow, and sacrifice to sacrifice throughout the ages, till one day the ransom was fully paid and religious liberty was won. It is our inheritance to-day, wrung from the powers of tyranny and intolerance by those who did not grudge to pay the price.

Turn the pages over to one of those stories of warfare for political freedom which dignify human history. Take the wonderful story of the revolt of the Netherlands under William the Silent against the degrading rule of Spain, or the recent story of the rise of Italy to self-reverence and self-government.

Through long, long years the toll of human life was given. How ineffective, how hopeless it all seemed. Young lives full of promise were thrown out upon the dust-heap—wasted. Torture, banishment, and death were the meed of those who had dared to dream of freedom, had ventured to cherish a new hope for their country and for their race. Who cared? Not the tyrant, conscious of his power to crush the lives of rebels into the dust. When the full price of blood and defeat had been paid—after many, many years—political freedom was won for the Netherlands, for Italy, and humanity was enriched for ever by deathless deeds of honour and of heroism. Was it worth while? Yea, truly.

Rebellion to tyrants is obedience to God. Revolt against wrong is a moral duty. It is better to die fighting for freedom than to live an acquiescing slave.

And whatever in human life to-day is noble, whatever is dignified, whatever is sublime, is due to those who all down the ages have fought against all odds for a great ideal, and have defied the power of tyrants in the name of human liberty.

If there were no prospect of women throwing off the yoke of political subjection for generations to come, there would still be no other way, now that the vision of freedom has dawned, except to rebel. There would still be no other way of keeping our blood clean of the slave taint, of retaining our moral dignity and our self-respect, except by challenging the right and defying the power of masters who would keep the fetters of subjection upon us.

But in these days there is no entrenched and powerful despotism on the throne of power. Instead there is a Government vested by the people of this country with a few years of authority, for the use of which they will have very soon to account. Every week, every month is bringing that Government nearer to the tribunal by which it will be judged. Every time a woman is imprisoned for demanding that justice which is an essential part of the Liberal creed and faith, the Government loses. It loses in moral dignity, it loses the force of its moral hold over its own supporters; it is laying up for itself the certainty of retribution when it appeals next time to the voters.

And while the Government grows weaker with every imprisonment, the woman's movement grows stronger. It gains just where its enemy loses. It gains in moral dignity. Its moral hold over the community is strengthened; its moral appeal to the voters, as well as to the voteless, becomes more forcible and more urgent.

Unlike those who of old fought the battle of political liberty or of moral or religious faith, we are allowed to behold the certainty of victory in the near future. Unlike those who built with bleeding hands in the dark, we, with the design before us, add stone to stone to our building, knowing that after a short time of strenuous toil we shall see it brought to completion. Ours is not the great test, nor the great sacrifice, nor perhaps the same tremendous achievement as that of the fighters of old. For achievement is often found to be worth just as much as it costs. But, such as it is, this test of our faith and endurance, our strength and our will must be equal to it. It is no small thing to be able to win for the womanhood of our own generation and of generations to come deliverance from political subjection and from the arrested social and human development which is the result of legal disability.

Let this battle go on without ceasing. Come forward, women of all classes and creeds, and join our ranks. Come forward, to fill, if need be, the prison cells of Holloway, or to step into the places that our heroic comrades have left vacant. Offer yourselves for training as speakers and organisers—honorary organisers, if you have means of your own. There is not one who reads these pages who cannot find something to give and something to do.

A ransom is demanded for the liberation of womanhood. None but women will be found to pay. Great is the price that already has been laid down. It is not enough. Come, then, women; bring your silver and your gold; bring your hours and your days; bring your body and your soul, and cast them down upon the treasure store that is being piled up for ransom. Grudge them not. For others have grudged no service and no sacrifice. And that which is to be purchased is beyond all price.

Emmeline Pethick Lawrence.

question should be treated as a separate measure, and carried by itself. They saw no prospect of the Liberals doing that at present, and they hoped that when the Conservatives came into power they would take the matter in hand. Meanwhile they went to Mr. Renwick to ask him to push the question forward in the House of Commons, and also to keep it forward in the minds of the Conservative party, so that it might become one of the planks of their platform.

Mr. Renwick promised to do all in his power. He was quite willing to ballot, with the reservation alluded to above, and "to urge upon Mr. Balfour and other Unionists to make the question one of the planks of their party programme." Having criticised some of the tactics, Mr. Renwick advised us to keep the question prominently before the country, especially during by-elections.

Mary Phillips.

SCOTLAND.

Glasgow.

Office: 141, Bath Street.

At Homes.—141, Bath Street, Thursday, 8 p.m.

Charing Cross Hall, Saturday, 3 p.m.

Important Events.—Atheneum, March 2. Mrs. Pankhurst.

University, March 3. Mrs. Pankhurst.

Those members and friends who were present at the meeting in the Charing Cross Halls in December will remember an announcement being made that we proposed to raise a Guarantee Fund of £250 during the early part of 1909 in order to further extend the Scottish work. We are very anxious to have this sum guaranteed within the next few months, as many of the plans we should like to make are for the present necessarily limited according to our finances. Frequently we are asked when we intend to begin operations in this or that outlying district, and are obliged to answer indefinitely, "When we have more money and more workers." We especially appeal to those members who are prevented from taking part in militant action and in public speaking, or the sale of VOTES FOR WOMEN, etc., to do all they can in helping to raise this fund. It may be guaranteed either in the form of an immediate payment or of a promise to give or collect a certain sum, the promise to be fulfilled any time during 1909. A generous response was made at the December meeting, when £49 was promised on the spot. Since then the treasurer has received the following contributions:—Miss McLennan, £2; Mrs. Boyd, £2; Mrs. Hodge, 11s.; Miss Thomson, 5s.; Mrs. Hector, £1 1s.; Miss F. McPhean, £3 3s.; Miss M. McPhean, £3 3s.; Miss Allan, £50; Anon., 10s.; G. M. C., £10; Miss Sutherland, £1 1s.; Miss Hannan, 5s.; Mrs. White, 5s.; Mrs. Bremner, 10s.; Miss Burnett, £1 1s.; Miss Underwood, £1 1s.; Mrs. Phillips, £1 1s.; Mrs. Henderson, £10 (profits of Café Chantant); total, £87 17s. The promises yet unfulfilled amount to £24 17s., so that £112 14s. is already guaranteed. If this can be done in six weeks, surely there ought to be no great difficulty in raising the remainder by the end of March if all our friends and members will do what they can to help. We wish again to draw attention to the fact that the Saturday At Homes will be held in the Charing Cross Halls every Saturday in February and March, and that these will be open to the general public. The time will be changed to 3 o'clock, and the speeches will begin promptly at 3.15. On Saturday, February 6, I shall take the chair, and Miss Macaulay will speak on "The Historical Aspect of Women's Suffrage."

Paisley.—About the third week in February a meeting will be held to discuss votes for women and the extension of our work in that town. We have been most fortunate in gaining assistance with preliminary arrangements from local friends, and we shall be very glad to have the names of all who are interested and would like to attend. Though not a public meeting, it will be open to anyone who applies for a ticket at 141, Bath Street. Place and date will be given next week.

Forfar By-election.—Just as I am writing, an appeal has come for workers at the Forfar by-election. We are very anxious to send as many from Glasgow as possible, and hope every one who can spare even a few days will send in her name to me. The work of a by-election is so varied that no one can imagine that she will not be of use. Those who do not speak are invaluable as workers who will sort literature, take charge of committee-rooms, go on messages, etc.

G. M. Conolan.

Aberdeen.

Office: Crown Mansions, 41, Union Street.

At Homes.—Music Hall, Round Room, Mondays, 3-5 p.m.

Crown Mansions, 41, Union Street, Thursdays, 7.30-9.30 p.m.

Important Event.—The Music Hall, March 5. Mrs. Pankhurst.

This last week of my visit to Aberdeen has been an exceedingly busy one. On Monday Mrs. Innes and I were the speakers at the At Home in the Round Room of the Music Hall. On Tuesday I spoke to the members of the Aberdeen Progressive League in the Central Hall, and on Wednesday we had an open-air meeting at the Wallace Statue, and on Thursday in Bon Accord Street. On both occasions we had huge crowds of most orderly and sympathetic people. Our At Homes, too, have been most successful, and in leaving Aberdeen I feel that I have made many good friends. I want to appeal to them all most earnestly to come forward and help Miss Flatman in the arduous work that lies before her. Many of the members would really make very good speakers if they would but summon up a little more courage and self-confidence. Speakers are, of course, essential to the carrying on of an energetic and successful Votes for Women campaign, and I am glad to learn that in the near future Miss Flatman is to have the help of Miss Joachim and Miss Isabel Seymour, in addition to the local members. But there is other work equally if not more important than speaking-work which is to be done both in and out of the office, and I trust that Miss Flatman will find many willing hands to help her in carrying it out. They should make themselves known to Miss

Flatman at the N.W.S.P.U. office in Union Street. This week we have to thank Mrs. Keith, Mrs. Ogston, and Mr. Johnson for subscriptions and Miss Gant for the promise to make herself responsible for 30s. worth of work for the Aberdeen stall at the Exhibition in May.

E. Sylvia Pankhurst.

Edinburgh.

Shop: 100, Haicober Street, Workers' Meeting, Mondays, 8 p.m.

At Homes.—Green Café, Wednesdays (evening).

Society of Arts, 117, George Street, Thursdays (afternoon).

Important Events.—The Synod, March 4, Mrs. Pankhurst.

Our office is now in full working order, and open every day from 10.30 a.m. to 7 p.m., thanks to the help of members who have volunteered to attend to it. Mrs. Byrde has kindly lent us a hat-rack, some chairs, and a large rug, so, with Mrs. Ivory's mahogany tables and bureau, the interior is very attractive. Two of our flags flying outside draw the attention of passers-by, and the window is seldom without a small crowd of interested gazers. The Edinburgh members worked up energetically a meeting in the Currie Memorial Hall, where I spoke on Tuesday to a sympathetic and interested audience, with Miss Chapman in the chair. My appeal for helpers at the Shandwick Place At Home on both Wednesdays met with a ready and generous response, but there is urgent need for more workers and supporters. Volunteers will be heartily welcome at our Workers' Meetings (see above). Will those unable to attend but anxious to help write to me at the same address? I am very anxious to have a regular "Votes Corps," as there are many parts of Edinburgh still untouched where a ready sale would be found. Our first At Home on Thursday, January 28, at the Society of Arts Hall, 117, George Street, was remarkably well attended. Mrs. Ivory, as chairman, welcomed our guests in the name of the N.W.S.P.U., and hoped that each of them would come again on succeeding Thursdays, accompanied by unconverted friends. I am to speak next Thursday on the militant tactics, and Mrs. Maxton-Graham has kindly consented to take the chair. Mrs. Maxton-Graham has also twice lent her drawing-room for an informal meeting to discuss what is now a burning question in Edinburgh, largely owing to our friends the Anti-Suffragists. On Wednesday, February 3, at 8 p.m., we held our first evening At Home in the Green Café, North Bridge. This is being worked up by means of dinner-hour meetings, to which Miss Esson Maule (who is putting a month's holiday at my disposal) will accompany me. Next Friday, by the courtesy of Mr. St. Clair, I am to have an opportunity of addressing his employees, who number from 600 to 700. Mrs. Ivory is to be my chairman, and we hope to put our side of the case effectively before an audience addressed last week by Mrs. Colquhoun on behalf of the Anti-Suffragists. All these At Homes and meetings are working towards one end—i.e., the making of Mrs. Pankhurst's approaching meeting on March 4 at the Synod Hall a very great success.

F. E. M. Macaulay.

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HECKLING CABINET MINISTERS.

Mr. Walter Runciman was the principal guest at a dinner given by the Chancellor and Court of the University of Leeds on Wednesday, when a woman, parting the curtains at the back entrance to the banquet hall, said: "Mr. Runciman, don't forget Votes for Women." Mr. Runciman made a flippant remark about the doors of the university being open to both sexes, and the woman was hurried out of the building.

Mr. Haldane was in the act of distributing prizes to Territorials in the Drill Hall, Bunhill Row, London, on Friday, when a woman on his right rose and said: "What about the work done by the mothers of the country? When are they going to be recognised? They are responsible for the sons of the Empire." Mr. Haldane tried to turn the incident off with a joke, but he had not proceeded very far with his speech when another woman rose in front of him and said: "As a soldier's sister, I ask for women's franchise." She was ejected with unnecessary force; and a little later the Minister for War was interrupted a third time by a woman, who remarked: "The women need the defence of the vote."

Mr. Churchill at Nottingham.

One of the most telling protests yet made in the course of the militant agitation was at Nottingham on Friday. "It is stated on good authority," states the Nottingham Guardian, in the course of a column devoted to the doings of the Suffragettes, "that Mr. Churchill travelled by the Midland in order to evade the pertinacious pursuers. He had originally proposed to travel by the 12.30 from King's Cross, and a number of ladies from the active union made up their minds to join the train as well. Mr. Churchill heard of this, it is said, and at the last moment altered his arrangements." As stated last week, no women were to be admitted to the so-called "public meeting" in the evening; and to pacify the local Liberal women a reception was arranged at the Victoria Hotel in the afternoon, when Mr. Churchill was expected to speak. A platform was erected, and half a dozen reporters were present. Entering the room with Mrs. Churchill, the President of the Board of Trade shook hands with several of the guests, became suddenly disconcerted, and unostentatiously disappeared. In a few minutes the proceedings were over and the room deserted. It was thought that Mr. Churchill had recognised among the guests a young woman who, in Birmingham recently, had put him in an embarrassing position by appearing, uninvited and unannounced, at a banquet of the Chamber of Commerce, and unnerved by the sight, though not a word had been said about Votes for Women, he left without making the expected speech. In the evening the fates again delivered Mr. Churchill into the hands of the Suffragettes. Owing to a breakdown of his motor outside the hotel, he was obliged to walk, and, despite two police who guarded him, he had to listen to a running fire of questions for a considerable part of the way, and the dreaded shout of "Votes for Women" pursued him even to the hall. As he was going up a passage to the back door another woman questioned him, and he replied that women would get the vote "some day," but he could say nothing as to its being granted by the present Parliament. The women then proceeded to hold a protest meeting outside the hall. The audience was very sympathetic, but the meeting was objected to by the police. The women refused to go away, insisting that the protest must be made there, whereupon they were arrested on the charge of causing an obstruction, and escorted by a cheering crowd to the Guildhall. There they were detained until the meeting was over, and then asked if they would give a pledge not to act in such a way again. This they refused to do, but they were allowed to leave without being summoned. At the meeting a man, who moved an amendment to the vote of thanks to Mr. Churchill, protesting that the subject of Women Suffrage had not been dealt with, was ejected. Mr. Churchill left the hall by the back way, but was met and interrogated by a number of women, two of whom ran by the side of his motor all the way to the hotel. Arriving at the hotel one of them ran up the steps, and, putting her head inside the carriage, again questioned him on the subject of the Suffrage. In reply, he said that the vote was coming, and that if all women were as keen as his questioner it would be theirs at once. Dashing out of the motor, he met another woman on the steps, and still a third was awaiting him inside the hotel. Commenting on the visit of Sir Edward Grey to Coldstream and the women's protest meeting recorded in last week's VOTES FOR WOMEN, the Berwickshire Advertiser says:—"The arguments put forth by Miss Phillips were quite convincing, and although the ladies failed to interview the Foreign Secretary, they have added to their list of supporters a large percentage of the public of Coldstream."

It is somewhat amusing to note that, although no women went to Downing Street during sittings of the Cabinet subsequent to that which was the occasion of the arrest of five members of the N.W.S.P.U., the most careful and elaborate police precautions were taken, indicative rather of the state of fear chronic in Russia!

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