

# VOTES FOR WOMEN

EDITED BY FREDERICK AND EMMELINE PETHICK LAWRENCE.

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## VOTES FOR WOMEN.

**Electors!—Your representatives in the House of Commons, by a majority of 110, voted for our Bill, but Mr. Asquith put his Veto on it. Therefore we call on you to censure Mr. Asquith by voting against the Liberal Candidate.**

*This is one of the Posters being used at the General Election, and can be obtained in three sizes from the Woman's Press.*

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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.

To-morrow polling begins for the General Election. The Liberals are claiming that they stand for the supremacy of the House of Commons. How false this claim is will be seen at once from the record of the Liberal Government with regard to Woman Suffrage. The Conciliation Bill, which would have given votes to women who pay rates and taxes, passed its second reading in the House of Commons on July 12 by a majority of 110, a majority larger than that accorded to the Government's Budget or the Government's Veto Resolutions; but this Bill was prevented from becoming law by the action of the Liberal Government, who

because they disliked the Bill, put their veto upon it by refusing further facilities for the measure. This shows that the Liberal Government only believe in the supremacy of the House of Commons so long as its views coincide with their own; the moment that the will of the House of Commons is different from that of the Government Mr. Asquith and his colleagues impose their veto upon its deliberations.

#### The Policy of the W.S.P.U.

Realising that the Liberal Government is the obstacle to votes for women, the Women's Social and Political Union are fighting against it in the present election, and they will call upon the electors everywhere to help them in this by securing the defeat of the Liberal candidates at the polls, and in this way showing their contempt for the political duplicity of the Government, which, while it talks about the veto of the House of Lords, is simply imposing its own veto upon the House of Commons. The Women's Social and Political Union are prepared to withdraw their opposition to Liberal candidates on one condition—namely, that they get a definite pledge from the Prime Minister that if in power he will allow the Conciliation Bill to be taken through all its stages during next Session.

#### The Election Campaign.

The Women's Social and Political Union have lost no time in getting to work in the election. Posters, of which the above cartoon is a facsimile, have been erected on the hoardings, Election addresses, and a special leaflet dealing with the Suffragette Deputations, are

being distributed broadcast, and copies of this paper are finding their way into the hands of electors. Owing to the shortness of the time available the Women's Social and Political Union is devoting special attention to constituencies where the majority at the last election was low, and where, therefore, the chance of defeating the Liberal Candidate is greatest. An account of the preliminary work which had already been done in these special constituencies when we went to press will be found on p. 140 and 141.

#### How Not to Stop the Agitation.

Severe sentences on women in the police courts and the slandering and brutal handling of men at public meetings form the present policy of the Liberal Government. If Mr. Churchill imagines that this will put a stop to the agitation for Woman Suffrage he is profoundly mistaken. We commend to him the following dialogue in the police court:—

The Magistrate (Sir Albert de Rutzen) to a woman prisoner: These doings must be put a stop to. I sentence you to two months' imprisonment without the option of a fine.  
Miss Kathleen Streetfield: That will not stop it.

Women who have braved the violent usages of the police, who have faced the hunger strike and forcible feeding in prison, will not be terrorised by long sentences. Men who have dared to stand up for women in the teeth of insult and assault will continue to make their protest, cost what it may.

#### What the Women have Done.

As our readers will remember, the first deputation of women, headed by Mrs. Pankhurst, Dr. Garrett





















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