

130/2

THE VOTE.
May 2, 1913.
ONE PENNY

"FREE SPEECH" IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

WHO

**paid our
fines**

FOR



and

WHY?

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Who Paid Our Fines?

For the second time Mrs. Despard's fine has been paid by "some person or persons unknown." This time, her colleagues shared the benefit with her—a clever dodge which did not, however, impose on those concerned. The Government, its hands full to embarrassment with what it has already grasped, and dares not let go, was in the position of the monkey with his fists full of nuts at the bottom of a narrow-mouthed jar. Unwilling to relax his grip on his prize, and unable to extract his fists without relaxing, he falls an easy prey to those who set the trap. Mr. McKenna has got a fistful that is causing him acute distress, but having boasted that there would be little difficulty in getting it out of the jar, is growing purple in the face in his efforts to do so with dignity. He is in no way minded to have the other fist incapacitated, and to face the situation over the body of such a personality as Mrs. Despard. Discretion has evidently proved the better part of his short-lived valour. Within two hours of her declaring a hunger-strike, the fines were "paid." Who says "physical force" now?

Organised Hooliganism.

We have evidence, corroborated and incontrovertible, of the payment, at the rate of 5s. a head, of hooligans organised for attack on Suffragist meetings in Hyde Park. This is what adds zest to the Government Sunday game. Woman baiting, in itself more than a little attractive to the aborted and degenerate intelligence of the gutter-spawn that pours itself over our public places at certain times and seasons, has an added joy when handsomely subsidised, and a source of profit as well as pleasure. It seems a terrible thing that our so-called civilisation should be manufacturing at so terrible a rate human slime and sludge of the description to be seen in the Park on Sunday afternoons. Still more terrible is it that "respectable" journalism and English "gentlemen," whose shibboleths are "chivalry," and so forth in wearisome iteration, should like to be identified with these manifestations of obscene and filthy lust, and should hail them as the proper spirit of the "British public." More shocking than all is it that it should be paid for. The fact that it is so explains and justifies militancy, and makes the Suffrage Cause urgent and essential. A lady, prominently associated with Suffrage, whose name and personality are as an inspiration to many friends and colleagues, recounted how a working woman, in no way connected with her society, watched the mob in Hyde Park, and exclaimed with passion: "See what they have made of our sons!" No more damning indictment of our "man-made world" was ever made; it will be hard to meet, impossible to refute.

"Friends!"

The "friends" of the Cause who voted *in favour* of the Cat-and-Mouse Bill at its third reading deserve to have their names recorded on a special roll of fame and honour. They include, among others:

Messrs. Agg-Gardner, F. D. Acland, A. Birrell, C. W. Bowerman, H. G. Chancellor, Lloyd George, W. Runciman, Russell Rea, Leif Jones, Silvester Horne, Lord Henry Cavendish-Bentinck, Sir W. P. Byles, Dr. Macnamara, Sir Alfred Mond, Sir John Simon, Sir Rufus Isaacs.

Truly this list *donne furieusement à penser* to those still inclined to trust to the honour of politicians and the goodwill of "friendly" M.P.s. Especially do those Conservatives, Irishmen and Labour Members who lent gratuitous support to the Government for the purpose of saving Mr. McKenna's face deserve our unstinted admiration and applause.

To What Does "Noblesse Oblige"?

De mortuis nil nisi bonum, we are taught; and if we should not abuse the dead, we should on the same principle also spare the dying. That moribund, emasculate body, the House of Lords, in its feeble death

twitches, seems hardly fair game for honest criticism these days. Its dying energies are devoted to the dignity of the peerage and a lingering longing for the blood of the Nonconformists. We need not be surprised therefore at the attitude of the Upper House towards Mr. McKenna's ewe lamb. Secure in its own feebleness as protecting it from attack, and in women's votelessness as rendering them less formidable enemies than, say, 500 blackleg peers, the Lords, spiritual and temporal, passed the Cat-and-Mouse Bill in a special session—all other business being suspended at the request of a Government which they profess to hate—merely grumbling that they didn't like it and didn't think it would do any good. The last repositories of chivalry, the remnants of the Plantagenets and of the Percys and the Howards, thus treated women in the hour of need, in the year of grace 1913. Are they any, and if so, how much, better than the hooligans in the Park?

The Impotent Law.

To the accompaniment of boogies and hisses and plainest comments on their action, the minions of the law arrived in due form on Tuesday, at noon, to rearrest Mrs. Pankhurst, at Mrs. Ayrton's house in Norfolk-square. Said minions comprised Superintendent Quim, the Governor of Holloway, and a professional "gentleman," who disgraces his cloth and his colleagues by acting as medical adviser to the Government. After a brief parley they were admitted to the house, and after another brief space passed out again, running the gauntlet of the fierce protest their presence and intention invoked. Mrs. Pankhurst was not removed; neither she nor her friends have applied for an extension of the licence; the Government has not been able to enforce its own so recently sanctioned decree, and it remains for Mr. McKenna to explain the situation to the country, and to find ingenious excuses for the breaking down of the complicated machinery of the law with its new powers, *plus* the entire brute force, drilled and undrilled, of the country, when applied to what the Home Secretary himself believes to be a "mere handful" of women.

The Triumphant "Weaker Sex."

In spite of the technical loss of her action for libel against Dr. Saleeby and *The Pall Mall Gazette*, Miss Lind af Hageby has scored a distinct triumph for her sex. Even the ranks of Tuscany—by which we mean the judge, jury, counsel, and all the other would-be male monopolists of legal knowledge and eloquence—could not forbear to cheer. We congratulate her on her fine fight, and the admission wrung from a reluctant Press, that the objection to women as lawyers is due to jealous fear of competition. Her great defence proved that the so-called weaker sex is equal to any physical or mental demand. Many a statesman may well envy her powers.

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WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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AT HEADQUARTERS.

London Meetings.—A SPECIAL MEETING will be held Friday evening, May 2, at Caxton Hall, Westminster, to proclaim "What we think of the Government, the Law, and the Administration of the Law." The speakers will be Mrs. Despard, Miss Nina Boyle, and Mrs. Julia Wood (the released prisoners) and Miss Anna Munro. The chair will be taken by Mrs. Huntsman promptly at eight o'clock. Admission by ticket only, price 6d. and 1s. each. A special appeal for funds for the militant work of the League will be made by Mrs. Julia Wood. Members and friends please rally to our support on this occasion!

A Reception to Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt, the President of the International Suffrage Alliance, who has made a Suffrage tour round the world, will be held on Monday, May 5, 3.30 to 5.30, at Caxton Hall. Speeches at 4 p.m. by Mrs. Chapman Catt, Mrs. Despard and Miss Nina Boyle. There will be music and refreshments, and admission will be by ticket only, price 1s. Readers are urged to come and give this renowned suffragist a very cordial welcome. Tickets for the meeting can be obtained from the W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-street.

Our "Wednesdays."—On May 7, at 3.30, we shall have the pleasure of again welcoming Mr. Laurence Housman among us. The subject he will deal with is "The Relation of Physical Force to Self-Government." Miss Boyle will be the second speaker, and we hope to see a good muster of our friends that afternoon.

Holiday Campaigns.—Further particulars of these campaigns will be given in next week's VOTE. It is possible that the Caravan will go on tour in Scotland this summer, and arrangements are in hand for campaigns in North Wales, Tankerton, and other coast districts.

Literature Department.—Now Ready.—"Frances Mary Buss." A cameo life sketch by Marion Holmes; 3d. "The Spoilt Child of the Law," by Margaret Wynne Nevinston; 1d. F. A. UNDERWOOD.

TOWER HAMLETS (WHITECHAPEL) BY-ELECTION.

Candidates: SIR STUART SAMUEL (L.);
CAPTAIN MONTEAGLE BROWNE (C.).

Figures at last Election:—

1910 (December).	
S. M. Samuel (L.)	1,731
Captain Browne (C.)	1,191
L. majority 540	

THE VOTE must, unfortunately, go to press before the earliest hour at which it will be possible to ascertain which of the two Anti-Suffrage candidates has carried off the majority vote. Neither of these gentlemen is of the smallest use to the women's Cause, but it is hoped that Captain Browne may convert his minority into a majority, and thus add to the lessons now being painfully learnt by a treacherous and undemocratic Government. The Women's Freedom League has worked strenuously to "keep the Liberal out," and has spoken to uniformly kind and courteous audiences, among which the "well-dressed cad" appears to be an unknown variety, and which show a high degree of understanding of the aims and principles advanced

by the Suffrage speakers. In no case has there been the least uproar or unpleasantness, although we have been told—we do not know with what truth—that the Constitutional Suffragists who disapprove of law-breaking have not had so happy a time, nor succeeded in gaining so much sympathy for their position as the Militants! Be this as it may, it is incontestably easier to put the militant aspect to people who have known in untold bitterness what it is to *fight* for freedom, than to those who know nothing of such suffering save through hearsay. In Whitechapel, one need not look far for such knowledge!

Miss Sidley reports a great activity at our Committee-room, where Mrs. Tritton has been in attendance day after day with most exemplary devotion. To her care and Mrs. Sparbaro's kind mothering all our other workers and speakers owe a debt of gratitude. Mrs. Despard addressed a meeting in an hour sandwiched between Caxton Hall and Trafalgar-square, on Wednesday, April 23; Mrs. Tanner and Miss Munro have held numbers of meetings; Mrs. Nevinston, Mrs. Nourse, Miss Andrews, Miss Holmes, Miss Berkeley Smith, Miss Rogers, and Miss Eva Ward have also given assistance as speakers; and Miss Alison Neilans has once more appeared on a W.F.L. platform in all her well-known "form" and eloquence. Our hearty thanks are conveyed to all.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

Brother and Sister in a room, each reading a morning paper.

Sister: Have you seen this awful murder of a governess in a field near Plymouth?

Brother: I know nothing about that. [He proceeds to read aloud episode in Marconi affair.]

Sister: This affair is of more importance to a woman than the Marconi affair, disreputable though it be. If only it were as carefully and thoroughly sifted! . . .

A few minutes later with indignant emphasis:

Brother: These Suffragettes! There, they have burned down a pavilion now worth What good can that do them? I know what I would do with them—give them all a flogging and a thorough one. The idea of attacking a cricket pavilion! . . .

To the ordinary man PROPERTY is sacred, and must be guarded at all costs. A GIRL more or less, *qu'importe?*

WOMEN PATRIOTS.

To Women-Patriots let all poets sing!

Their souls are founts of zealous enterprise;

They are not learned in shams and party lies.

To Right and Justice eagerly they cling,

And unto Freedom's altar offerings bring,

With hearts inspired, and triumph in their eyes,

And knowledge gathered from the centuries

Still unpolluted as earth's primal spring.

The patriot-spirit breaks all earthly bonds,

And Death is powerless to quench its fire,

Which, dying here, burns elsewhere brighter still.

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"FREE SPEECH" IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

On Wednesday, April 23, the Women's Freedom League, in pursuance of its policy to defy the law on all possible occasions until women are politically enfranchised, held a public meeting in Trafalgar Square at 11 o'clock at night. The authorities were completely taken by surprise, and after mounting the plinth Mrs. Despard, Miss Boyle, Miss Munro, and Mrs. Julia Wood were able to address an ever-increasing crowd streaming out of the theatres for more than half an hour, while Mrs. Ball, Miss Dickeson, and others rang bells in various parts of the Square to attract the streams of people coming from the many theatres in the neighbourhood. The crowd, numbering at one time between 2,000 and 3,000 people, was distinctly friendly and frequently cheered the women as they continued their speeches, while dodging the few stalwart but slow constables who had followed them on to the plinth. At length an inspector and a reinforcement of police arrived, who, after some struggle, managed to get Mrs. Despard, Miss Boyle and Mrs. Wood off to Cannon-row, where they were charged and afterwards bailed out. They appeared in court the following morning, where they were charged with "obstructing the police in the execution of their duty."

Mrs. Despard told the magistrate (Mr. Curtis Bennett) she had made her protest on behalf of the right of free speech and against the Government's attempt at coercion in prohibiting women's meetings in Hyde Park. She insisted that women should have the same privilege as men in these matters. Our President further told him that she had been five times arrested, and had already been imprisoned three times for the part she had taken in the Woman Suffrage agitation. In that agitation she had never consciously hurt or injured anybody or anything, but she would continue to make her protest on behalf of the freedom of women so long as breath remained in her body. Neither fine nor imprisonment would stop her.

Miss Boyle told the magistrate there were many inaccuracies in the police accounts given in court, and asked if she might have access to the documents of the prosecution. This was refused. She protested against the authorities only calling police witnesses and no independent witnesses, and further against these witnesses being present during the hearing of each other's evidence. Miss Boyle declared that a wrong charge had been entered; their crime was not in reality obstruction of the police, but the holding of an illegal meeting, and this the authorities pretended not to recognise. She pointed out how easy it was to inflict injustice in these courts, to entrap the helpless and ignorant among strange surroundings when those who were prosecuting were in their own workshop and knew well all the tricks of their own trade. Miss Boyle also told the magistrate that she looked upon the court and the way "justice" was administered there with supreme contempt and could not understand how gentlemen could be found to accept a salary to administer its so-called justice. That they were paid to do it did not make it right, as no one knew better than they did how bad the law was that they admin-

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istered. That they could think their position justified it only made the fight more necessary, more righteous, and more determined.

Turning to the public, she told them scornfully that she hoped they would begin to understand what it was the fight was about—the People's Rights—which they were too cowardly to fight for themselves!

Mrs. Wood pointed out that she was not the person (Julia Woods) mentioned in the charge-sheet, and on the magistrate's intimation that it was of no consequence, she protested against inaccuracies of this kind being treated as unimportant in the court. She stated that when taken off the plinth by the police she had declared, "I don't care, I've held my meeting, and I'm satisfied." Mrs. Wood further mystified the police by quoting a bit of Scotch which she subsequently told the magistrate meant "What will be, will be." Mrs. Wood inquired the name "of this gentleman sitting below me," and was told his name was "Muskett." A further query from her as to the official position he occupied in this country elicited the fact that he was solicitor to the Commissioner of Police, much to the gentleman's obvious annoyance. Having received this information, Mrs. Wood remarked that this was her first appearance but would not be her last.

For no particular reason the magistrate preferred a variety in his sentences. Mrs. Despard was fined £5 or two weeks; Miss Boyle 60s. or ten days; and Mrs. Wood 40s. or seven days—all in the second division. The authorities, who are gradually being educated, did not think it necessary to inquire whether the fines would be forthcoming; and after a few hours' delay at the police-court, the gaoler announced "the Royal coach." Miss Boyle and Mrs. Wood cheerfully disappeared into Black Maria, a heavily-guarded motor conveying our President followed to Holloway.

In Holloway were many good comrades, who gave Mrs. Despard and her friends a hearty welcome from the cells overlooking the yard. News was conveyed to Miss Olive Hocken (who helped us with *VOTE* cartoons), and other undaunted workers whose spirits have suffered no eclipse during prolonged incarceration. Matron and wardresses were as kind as their position permits; but Mrs. Despard announced her intention of hunger-striking when the Governor refused permission for her secretary to see her, as he has undoubted power to do under "Rule 243A," telling her to petition Mr. McKenna! The fines were mysteriously "paid" an hour or two later.

"Message to My Friends and Fellow-workers."

From Bow-street police station, while waiting her removal to Holloway, Mrs. Despard sent the following message to readers of *THE VOTE* :—

Efforts are being made to stop the right of free speech. This is serious, not only for women, but for men; and we of the Women's Freedom League, whose aim it is to gain liberty for ourselves that we may help to secure it for every member of the community, felt it was our bounden duty to protest.

Therefore, on Wednesday night, acting in defiance of police regulations, we went out from our office to Trafalgar Square, and mounted the historic plinth. It was a strange scene ever to be remembered by those who took part in it. We stood on the side of the plinth facing the Strand. There were many passers-by, for the theatres were pouring out their audiences. Two valiant friends from East London helped us to climb. Mrs. Wood rang her bell lustily, and in a few moments people came flocking up in their hundreds.

All sorts of reports have been given of what followed. I can testify, knowing crowds, both hostile and friendly, that from first to last the attitude of those I addressed was of sympathy and goodwill.

There were a few hooligans. We heard one or two boos and hisses; even these, however, died down as my mates, Miss Boyle, Miss Munro, Mrs. Wood, and I,

speaking from various points, addressed the meeting. I wish here to draw attention to the fact that there was probably a reason for the absence of hooliganism in Trafalgar Square on Wednesday night. Our opponents were unprepared. We had taken them completely by surprise, and there was no opportunity to organise ruffianism. This bears out what we have often said that "the men of the country" are not against us. The truth is that the real manhood of the country is actually *with* us.

The effect of imprisonment has always been to add fuel to the fire of revolt. We are women in revolt. Our agitation will go on, taking one form after another until the men of the country are completely roused, until they have made up their minds that justice shall be done.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Women at the Bar of the House: No Time.

Lord Robert Cecil was not in his place in the House of Commons on April 28 to ask the question on the Order Paper in his name; the answer appeared among "written answers" thus :—

Lord Robert Cecil asked the Prime Minister whether he is aware that petitions have been presented to this House by representatives of women's societies containing over 100,000 members, asking to be heard at the Bar of the House by so many of them as the House shall direct; and whether he will give time for discussion of the motion by the hon. Member for North Somerset to the effect that such petitions be granted?

The Prime Minister: There is no time at the disposal of the Government between now and next Monday which could be given for this purpose.

Mr. King asked the Prime Minister whether he will, on some day before Friday next, move the suspension of the Eleven o'clock Rule in order that the House may discuss and vote upon the Motion (Enfranchisement of Women) standing in the name of the hon. Member for North Somerset, it being understood that hon. Members will signify to the Patronage Secretary their readiness to attend in sufficient numbers to prevent a successful counting-out of the House?

The Prime Minister: I fear I do not see my way to accede to my hon. Friend's suggestion.

"Let Women Come—to Parliament."

Mr. F. W. Acland, Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, speaking at a meeting of the East Nottingham Women's Liberal Association, said that Liberals would be justified in carrying women's suffrage as soon as they had the chance. Women at present had their distinct grievances, seeing that there had been unjustifiable delays, vexatious miscalculations and accidents. We had labelled half our people as not fit to be trusted with political matters, and that could not be good for the State. The State must extend the responsibilities of democracy to include women! It was said that if the vote were extended to women, women would soon be in Parliament. Why not? he asked himself, and replied: "Let them come." (Cheers.) Those women who succeeded in getting returned to Parliament would be women whom men would be glad to have there and who would be able to give an enormous amount of help. (Cheers.) Such women as Mrs. Creighton and Mrs. Sidney Webb could help in Parliament in all sorts of ways, and as soon as the victory came, they would be able to go forward together, man and woman, hand in hand, fearlessly facing the future. (Cheers.)

The resolution, moved by the chairman, the Rev. Principal Ritchie, urging a thoroughgoing scheme of democratic electoral reform, and the enfranchisement of women as an essential part of any such scheme, was seconded by Mr. R. B. Wallis, prospective Liberal candidate for Newark, and carried with but two dissentients.

Preparing for May 5.

The Liberal committee formed to support Mr. Dickinson's Woman Suffrage Bill has now been enlarged by the addition of the "backers" of that Bill, who include two Unionists—Lord Henry Bentinck and Sir J. Rolleston. Lord Wolmer has joined the committee, also Mr. A. Henderson, Mr. Burt, Mr. Fenwick, and Mr. Snowden, Mr. Chancellor, Dr. Macnamara, Sir C. Nicholson, Mr. Whitehouse, Mr. W. Rea and other Liberals. Five Cabinet Ministers have been added to it—Sir E. Grey, Mr. Lloyd George, Mr. McKinnon Wood, Mr. Runciman and Sir Rufus Isaacs. Sir J. Simon is the chairman of the committee, Mr. Leif Jones its secretary, and the whips Lord H. Bentinck Mr. Chancellor, Mr. A. Henderson, and Mr. H. McLaren.

The Anti-suffragists on the Unionist side held a meeting on April 27, convened by Mr. A. Wärd, at which Sir F. Banbury presided. They decided to use their best efforts to impress Unionist woman Suffragists that Mr. Dickinson's Bill proposed to enfranchise 6,000,000 women, so that their prediction that the Conciliation Bill would prove to be the thin end of the wedge had been realised. They will detach some Unionists who formerly supported the Conciliation Bill, but by no means all. The Unionists will be divided, the minority supporting Mr. Dickinson's Bill, in the hope, presumably, that if it goes to Committee they can then reduce it by amendment to the old "conciliation" proposal.

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Scottish Women Excluded.

A meeting of the Scottish unofficial Liberal members was held on April 23 to consider the draft of the Scottish Home Rule Bill, which has been prepared by a sub-committee, and the second reading of which will be moved by Mr. Coman on May 30. The draft of the Bill proposed that the electors for the Scottish Parliament should include women within the limitations laid down in Mr. Dickinson's Bill. Exception was taken to this proposal by the majority of members at the meeting, and it was decided therefore that women electors should be cut out of the Bill.

The Right of Free Speech.

The Free Speech Defence Committee has addressed a letter to Mr. Reginald McKenna, the Home Secretary, protesting against the "attack on the constitutional freedom of meeting and of speech—first in prohibiting the London meetings of the Women's Social and Political Union; secondly, in applying the very dubious and semi-obsolete Act of 34 Edward III. in order to silence three persons who were uttering opinions."

The letter adds that in repeated cases during the last few years small meetings of an unpopular or inconvenient character have been broken up or prevented. It is pointed out that such measures are unconstitutional, being directed against established popular liberties, and that police and officials are paid servants of the public, whose function is to further public order and convenience, but never to dictate what kind of public opinion is to be tolerated or stifled. The letter is signed by Mr. Josiah C. Wedgwood, M.P., as chairman.

Edward III. Again.

After lawyers had indulged in three hours of hair-splitting at Bow-street Police Court on April 26, to discover whether the ancient statute of Edward III. applied to Miss Annie Kenney, the hearing was adjourned until May 3 for further investigation into the meaning of the Act. Miss Kenney renewed her undertaking to refrain from militancy. The cases against Mrs. Drummond and Mr. George Lansbury were also adjourned.

NOTE.—It has been decided to publish *THE VOTE* on Thursdays, instead of Wednesdays, as hitherto.

CITIES in our day need a periodic house-cleaning, and the time is coming when women will not only keep their own doorsteps clean, but will be ashamed of slums, filthy back-yards and physical and moral degradation of our youth.—Mrs. Gessell, Yale, U.S.A.

THE "CAT AND MOUSE" ACT.

On April 23 the Bill passed its Third Reading, after a short debate, by 294 to 56, Sir A. Markham and Mr. Will Thorne being Tellers for the Noes. As no amendments were accepted there was no Report Stage for further discussion.

Mr. Keir Hardie made a strong final protest against the Bill, which he declared was unnecessarily harsh and cruel. It was brought forward as an alternative to forcible feeding, but the discussion had brought out the fact that in reality it was an addition to forcible feeding. He objected to the Bill because he was certain that it would prove futile. The time spent in considering it was wasted. He objected to the increased secret power it gave to the police, enabling things to be done which, under the existing law, would not be possible. "I have no desire," he said, "and no will to enlarge the powers of the police authorities in a way which will enable them to act in the dark and without that publicity to which all charges against individuals should be subject."

Mr. McKenna said he could give no security that the conditions contained in an order of release would be observed. No Minister could ever give such a security. But the fact that he would have the power to release a prisoner temporarily, instead of necessarily giving an absolute discharge, was a power which enabled him to go somewhat nearer the enforcement of the sentence of the court than he was able to do at the present time. He thought there would be very little danger under the Bill of the police making false arrests.

Final Stages Occupied One Minute in the House of Lords

In the House of Lords the Lord Chancellor said he moved the Second Reading with a sense of regret that it should be necessary. Although the Bill was of general application, it was notorious that it was directed to a certain class of prisoners who had been engaged in acts of violence, who had been properly sentenced, but who, out of no sordid or personal motive, but by a sense that they were fighting for what they considered their liberties, refused to accept the punishment awarded by the law of the State. As they could not contemplate anarchy in any form, those who administered the law were receiving additional powers by the Bill to deal with the situation. There were at the present moment six persons who, if the Bill did not receive the Royal assent immediately, would defeat the law. He asked the House to allow the Bill to pass at once through all its remaining stages.

The Marquis of Salisbury said it was with considerable reluctance the Opposition consented to the course which was proposed, but they recognised the difficulty the Government had to face, and were abating some of their rights in this matter. The Bill was an emergency Bill. The present conditions of anarchy must be put an end to, and whatever powers were necessary they would cheerfully grant, but the Bill was the Government Bill.

The Lord Chancellor thanked the Opposition for the way in which they were assisting Ministers. He agreed that it was an emergency Bill, but the Government were doing the best they could.

The Bill was then successively read a second time, passed through Committee, given a third reading, and passed, the last three stages occupying the period of one minute.

The Danger of the Bill.

From a long and strong article in *The New Statesman* we take the following:—

"We regard with the gravest concern the latest step which the Government has taken in its efforts to escape from the dilemma in which the militant women have placed it. It is the specific evil of injustice that it provokes malignancy, and that malignancy leads in its turn to oppression. It is awkward that Mr. Asquith has up to now found no way of fulfilling the express undertaking which torpedoed the Conciliation Bill. It is, to say the least of it, inconvenient that we should, in consequence, have our empty houses burnt down and our letters singed. It is not creditable that we should fail to suppress 'hooliganism' and crime in either sex. But between the 'fell and incensed points' of such 'mighty opposites' as Mrs. Pankhurst and Mr. McKenna, M.P., we must not allow our liberties to be destroyed.

"Under the procedure chosen by the Government the magistrate can, without the defendant being charged with the commission of any offence, without any evidence being preferred of an offence having been committed, require the defendant to find sureties or go to gaol in default—merely because the magistrate chooses, on information received, or 'on his own view and knowledge,' to regard him or her as being, to use the words of the statute, 'not of good fame.'

"This ancient statute, the very wording of which is (as Mr. Wedgwood usefully reminded the House of Commons) of doubtful authenticity, has in the past been used to the oppression of all sorts of poor people. . . . There is absolutely no record in this country of any proceedings under this statute against persons for merely inciting to action. It is ludicrous to contend that this was what the Parliament of 1360 meant by being 'not of good fame'! If Miss Kenney can be arrested, and bound over and required to find sureties, or go to prison in default, merely because the Home Office informs the magistrate that she has been 'inciting' in a way that the Home Office finds inconvenient, then any Labour agitator, any person addressing a strike meeting, any unpopular person doing any-

thing that the Home Secretary of the day may dislike, may be—under the pretence that he is what the Parliament of 1360 deemed 'not of good fame'—similarly silenced or laid by the heels. *The Morning Post* has gleefully avowed as much. This power may, moreover, be exercised in a country district by any two unpaid Justices of the Peace.

"This is no idle imagining. In India an exactly similar provision is to-day habitually made use of, as the officials frankly state, as a convenient administrative device in cases where detention in gaol is desired, but where, owing to lack of evidence or a desire to avoid publicity, or to avoid trouble to the officials, no formal charge is preferred. The defendant is, without charge, without evidence, without conviction, simply bound over, called upon to find sureties of such a character that it is known that he will find it impossible to comply, and then sent to prison for anything up to twelve months merely in default of finding the sureties required! At all times, unfortunately, there are hundreds of men in prison in India who have not been convicted, who have not even been charged, but who are there simply because they have been unable to find the sureties which it was deliberately intended they should not find. Doubtless they are mostly 'bad characters,' known to the police, and so on. Yet they ought not to be in prison unconvicted, and the Secretary of State should insist on the practice being given up.

What is at stake is the personal liberty of the subject; and the issue is raised in its simplest and most elementary form—namely, that of imprisonment without trial, for it is impossible to describe as a trial proceedings in which it is unnecessary to prove the commission of any criminal act. Mr. McKenna's lapse may be explained by the circumstance that he is at his wits' end for 'expedients wherewith to meet the tactics of the W.S.P.U. But what of the Prime Minister, and the Lord Chancellor, and those 667 other gentlemen who sit in Westminster as the volunteer guardians of our liberties? Have they all allowed the Suffragettes to wreck their principles as well as their nerves?"

The "Nation" says—

"The 'Cat-and-Mouse Bill' was read a third time in the Commons on Wednesday by 294 votes to 56. Mr. McKenna did not put the case for it very high. He admitted that he could give no security that the conditions of the licences would be kept, but pleaded that he had no alternative except to discharge prisoners who would not take food and could not with safety be forcibly fed. With regard to this class he would be 'somewhat better off' than before. Some of them might escape, but then some others could be brought back to prison. If they go out of jurisdiction altogether, then the Home Secretary, like Dogberry, thanks God that he is well rid of them. This, of course, is lax justice. And we are afraid it will not work out as good Liberalism. On Thursday, the Bill went through the House of Lords, faintly assisted by a deprecatory dialogue between the Lord Chancellor and Lord Salisbury."

The "Sunday Times" writes—

"The right hon. gentleman handles this problem of militancy exactly like a hen-pecked husband trying to assert his authority. Behind all his affected dignity and resolution there lurks an obvious and enfeebling consciousness of his own futility and an invincible fear of the defiance that he pretends to confront."

First Release Under the Act.

Mr. Hugh Franklin has been released under the Act. It is stated that he has been forcibly fed 114 times since his committal in March. He barricaded his door, broke strings and cords with which he was bound, was under constant observation for three weeks, and was once mentally examined.

All hunger-strikers were released from Holloway on April 29.

OUT OF GREAT TRIBULATION.

'Cry aloud, spare not!' the message rang clear,
On a time when oppression was rife in the land,
From Jehovah the Lord to the listening seer,
'Lift up thy voice, cry aloud!' rang the command
Again earth groans under her burden of woe,
And far down the ages that same Lord we pray,
While tyrannies triumph and honour lies low,
'Send a prophet to lift up a strong voice to-day!'
Grey Poverty's troops passed me by in the street,
Roar of traffic, the surge of the eddying tread,
Wan faces, deep-seared in the struggle to meet
Life's pitiless problem—the winning of bread;
And I thought of the countless thousands of men
And women and children, high-hearted and brave,
Who have wrestled till courage was spent, and then
Sunk helpless and dumb to their nameless grave.
But the low waving grasses shall yield up their dead
No less than the marbles shimmering tall,
And when heaven's great Roll of Honour is read,
These unhonoured heroes shall answer the call,
And, rank upon rank, from obscurity drawn
Out of great tribulation shall rise up above
Low earth's petty rulers to greet the glad dawn
Of that wonderful Kingdom whose pass-word is Love.
ISOBEL MACDONALD.

"BUT WHY."

I have been troubled of late by an inquiring little spirit whom I have christened "But Why," and who, at any moment, may drop on me with her eternal questions and worry me into some kind of answer. She is a pretty enough little thing, something like "Tinker Bell," with a mouth that, by long questioning, has become the shape of a query mark, with the dimple in her chin for the dot underneath. By rights she should be perching on buttercups among the meadows. I tried her once but she only asked: "But why can't the little children be playing here instead of in those horrid slums?" For she sees everything and goes everywhere.

I am not that kind of person. Left alone I should shut myself up among books, and there stay till death called for me. Indeed, it was among my books "But Why" first came to me with an unasked for report of a Suffrage procession I had accidentally witnessed. "But, why don't you help?" she demanded; and, not being able to find an answer to that question, I did start in to help from that day. Not content with rousing me, she has kept me at it ever since.

I try to send her away. It struck me once that she could question Cabinet Ministers with advantage, especially Lloyd George. She came back looking very white and queer. It seems that Cabinet Ministers and the like are surrounded by a self-protective aura, which is as a poisonous gas to all questioning spirits, so that they shrivel and faint when they come near, and unless they get away they would die. The name of the gas is "Self-satisfaction," and it is not the peculiarity of Cabinet Ministers.

When the Insurance Act was passed, "But Why" was awful; indeed, she still questions me. She wants to know why the maternity grant should go to the father, why a number of women who earn the same wage as men, and pay the same contribution, should receive less benefit, and how a woman who is the bread-winner can be expected, when the child is born, to pay all household expenses, the midwife's, and possibly the doctor's fee, and provide for the new child out of 30s. ? And so on.

She haunts police-courts and prisons in a way that is scarcely respectable, and asks why, in some cases, men warders are in attendance on women, and why the sanitary arrangements are so disgusting? "Why," she demands, "are there no women magistrates and judges, and why are the courts cleared of women when cases arise that most need women's understanding?" She takes a special interest in forcible feeding, and asks how doctors can be found to torture women, and how they square their actions with the ideals of their calling? Naturally she wants to know why Bonar Law and Sir Edward Carson are not arrested for inciting to riot, and the Suffragist leaders are? Outdoor meetings she attends, and asks why the men who do violence there are not run in, &c. ?

The other night she perched on the edge of my book as I was settling down in my armchair.

"Do you know anything about the taxation of married women?" she began.

"No," I said, curtly, for I never encourage her.

"There's a lot of things about it I don't understand."

I let it pass.

"Why," she went on, unabashed, "is the husband liable if the woman doesn't pay the tax on her income?"

"Oh, go and ask Dr. Wilks," I replied.

"And why can't the wife claim rebate directly, instead of having to do it through her husband? What's

to prevent his sticking to the money? And why does the law discourage marriage?"

"What do you mean?" Really, "But Why" is idiotic at times.

"It does in a way through the Income-tax. A man and woman may both have incomes of their own which, if separate, are exempt from taxation. If they marry their incomes are reckoned as one, and become taxable. If they live together unmarried, their incomes are still exempt. Why is that?"

"I don't know."

She went off on another tack.

"I thought we believed in no taxation without representation."

"We do."

"Then, why do we tax women or why don't we give women the vote?"

(She often questions in twos.)

"Well," I replied, "ignoring her second question, 'you see women enjoy State protection; it's right they should help support the State.'"

"State protection," she mused on the words. "The other night you saw a crowd round a restaurant. The

commissionaire was trying to push a woman away. We were told by the crowd that he was her husband, but whether the woman wanted to get in or only to speak to him, they couldn't say. She was not drunk. She refused to go away, and in the end two policemen arrested her.

It seemed unlikely that she would be there without some good reason, for she was expecting a child very soon, and certainly did not want to draw public attention upon herself. They handled her roughly. I heard her cry out: "Oh, please don't hurt my arm, I'll go quietly. Please don't hurt me!"

"Don't!" I broke in. "Didn't I hear it all night!"

"You would say that woman was enjoying State protection?"

"Well," she went on again after a bit, "I can understand Mrs. Humphry Ward and her little lot paying taxes; they think men can manage so beautifully, but I can't understand a Suffragist doing it."

"A lot of them don't," I put in, "they're resisting all up and down the country. You know, every few hours one hears the bailiffs are on the warpath."

"It's lovely," she said, "but why don't more do it?"

"You see for some it's too mild, and for others too extreme."

"It's milder than capturing the Monument," said "But Why," "but resisting taxes does not prevent you doing the other things, too. As for too extreme—it's more constitutional to resist a wrong tax than to pay it."

"I think so, too."

"Yet they go on paying Income-tax, Inhabited House Duty, and all the rest of it. Why do they pay men to break their pledges and to torture other Suffragists? Why do they pay men to muddle about with things women can do better, like feeding children? And why are hooligans organised to break up Woman Suffrage meetings, and why does the Press help them? Why do Members of Parliament think it does not matter if they say one thing to women and do another? And why . . . ?"

"Oh, go and ask them!" I replied, for I could stand her no longer.

"I will," she said, and spread her blue wings, "and I'll come back and tell you all about it."

Gentle reader, has she come your way?

M. LAWRENCE.

MARCH from Horsham to BRIGHTON

THE MARCHERS' QUI VIVE CORPS, led by Mrs. de Fonblanque, will

Leave HORSHAM on MAY 14, at 11 a.m.

Leave HENFIELD on MAY 15, at 10 a.m.

HALT AT PATCHAM.

Leave PATCHAM for BRIGHTON, 3.30 p.m.

Meeting on Sea-front, 5.30 p.m.

Funds urgently needed for the upkeep of the Depot and for the organising of the March, which is to be one of many throughout the country, if funds permit.—Address Mrs. DE FONBLANQUE, c/o Miss Roff, Easebourne, Midhurst, Sussex.

SUPPORT THOSE ADVERTISERS WHO SUPPORT US.

STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES. Deputation to the Prime Minister.

The Prime Minister received a deputation from the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses in his private room at the House of Commons on April 28, the societies represented being the British Medical Association, the Matrons' Council of Great Britain and Ireland, the Royal British Nurses' Association, the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, the Fever Nurses' Association, the Association for Promoting the Registration of Nurses in Scotland, the Scottish Nurses' Association, the Irish Nurses' Association, the National Council of Trained Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland, and the National Union of Women Workers of Great Britain and Ireland.

Dr. W. A. Chapple, M.P., introduced the deputation, and observed that there were two vested interests affected by the State registration of nurses. One was the unqualified nurses themselves, and the second was one or two hospitals which—he did not think it was too strong a word to use—exploited the nurses for the financial advantage of the hospitals themselves. The trained and skilled nurse was as essential as the trained and skilled medical man, and unqualified nursing was as much a danger to the community and to the patients they tried to attend as unqualified medical men.

Sir Victor Horsley, speaking on behalf of the British Medical Association, said the medical profession knew the advantages they gained from registration, and they wanted to see the same advantages obtained for the nursing profession.

Miss Cox-Davies, Lady Munro-Ferguson, Miss Huxley, Dr. Mackintosh and Dr. Gregor Robinson spoke.

The Prime Minister, in his reply, referred to the menacing and formidable opposition. He was informed on the best authority that it included 91 chairmen of hospitals, 66 matrons of London hospitals, 178 matrons of provincial hospitals, 1,332 nurses, and 342 doctors. In view of these figures and facts, he thought a measure of this kind would incur very vigorous opposition in the House of Commons. In these circumstances he was obliged to have regard to the exigencies of the Parliamentary situation. He suggested that the deputation should negotiate with those in opposition.

Dr. Chapple said they had unanimity amongst all the organisations; they could not possibly get unanimity amongst all the individuals. He remarked that at the London Hospital two years was regarded as sufficient for training nurses, but before the two years were up they were sent out, and the hospital drew £100 a year for them and paid them £28.

Sir Victor Horsley said they had absolute unanimity amongst something like 40,000 people, doctors and nurses, and they were opposed by a handful of people who did not even give their names.

HOW SOME MEN PROTECT WOMEN.

Shooting.

Mrs. Silber, Poplar, shot by her husband in the presence of her son of thirteen. Unhappy marriage, the man being unfaithful and unkind. The cause of the shooting was the woman's interference with her son in paying her rings to provide money for another woman. Man subsequently committed suicide.

Assault.

Mrs. Crawford, New Broughton (Edinburgh), threatened by her husband with a knife, assaulted repeatedly with kicks on legs and body, and attacked by seizing the throat. Previous conviction. **Twenty days, and a £1 security for his good behaviour for six months.**

Mrs. Cardy, Hornchurch, married last year. Had been constantly in fear of her husband, who repeatedly assaulted her, once while bathing her baby. Had also struck the baby repeatedly, the first time when it was four months old. Had twisted his wife's arms, and so terrified her that she left him. He pleaded that "he had only hit her twice, so far as he could remember," and did not want to part from her. Wished her to live with him! Complainant asked for a separation order, as she went in fear of her life. The Chairman, Mr. Henry Goslin, said it was "a very serious thing to make separation orders," and **adjourned the case for a month** to see if the couple could not "make up their differences!" (We would like to make this gentleman live for a month, without protection, with a person who had attempted his life and brutally injured him! We guarantee he would think that a far more "serious thing" than a separation order.)

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE ANNOUNCE

An Indignation Meeting AT CAXTON HALL, Friday, May 2, AT 8 P.M.

To proclaim: "What we think of the Government and its Administration of the Law."

Speakers: Mrs. DESPARD, Miss NINA BOYLE, Mrs. WOOD, Miss ANNA MUNRO.

Chairman: Mrs. HUNTSMAN.

Admission by Ticket only, 6d. and 1s. Tickets from W.F.L. Office 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

A Turkish Woman's European Impressions. By Zeyneb Hanoum. (Seeley, Service and Co., Ltd. 6s. net.)

A few years ago two Turkish ladies of high position, Zeyneb and Melek Hanoum, escaped from a harem. The unusual occurrence caused a fluttering among the Dovecotes in Turkey, and supplied a sensation for the European Press. The incident also provided "copy" for the famous novelist, Pierre Loti, who made the heroines of the adventure the heroines of his novel, "Les Désenchantées." In a series of letters to her friend and editor, Miss Grace Ellison, one of the ladies, Zeyneb, gives her impressions of the manners and customs of the people among whom she spent her six years of voluntary exile. There is a piquancy and charm about the writing which keeps the reader's attention, in spite of the feeling that the opinion expressed is more often the result of the mood of the moment than of unbiased judgment. The author has a sense of humour, as the following quotation shows:

"Have you anything to declare?" a Custom House officer asks me. "Yes," I replied. "My hatred of your Western 'customs' and my delight in being alive."

Another delight was an open window:

"No veil, no iron bars. It was worth the price we had paid, just to have the joy of being before the open window."

Yet the writer of those words returns to veil and bars! A quality of indeterminateness, perhaps due to mists of tradition, never quite dispelled, clings to everything, and foreshadows the *désenchantement*. Zeyneb's experiences vary from a Spanish bull-fight to a scene in the English John Bull fight with Suffragettes. Of the one she says:

"Not for untold gold would I ever go to see it again."

Of the other:

"If this is what the women of your country have to bear in their fight for freedom, all honour to them; but I would rather groan in bondage."

It may be that if Zeyneb had found Western women in possession of the freedom she made such a plucky attempt to gain, she would not have been *désenchantée*. A. W. L.

A Survey of the Woman Problem. By Rosa Mayreder. (Heinemann. 5s. net.)

Frau Rosa Mayreder's "survey" is comprised in a collection of essays, new and old. The essays mainly seek to deal with the woman problem from its ethical-psychological side. The author sets before her readers the conceptions of femininity formed by various scientists and students. Putting aside such extreme views as Otto Weininger's: "Women have no existence and no essence; they are not—they are nothing—" the points of view of authorities quoted may be indicated by the lady's own, and Broca's. The lady considers that:

"Economic improvements would have little effect in changing the real relations of the sexes . . . the majority of women are, neither in the qualities of character nor intellect, the equal of man."

Broca says: "Men and women, if left entirely to their own inward tendencies, would grow to resemble one another very closely, as indeed they do in the savage state."

But few of these savants distinguish between natural and acquired divergencies. The fact that many divergencies in the ethical-psychological sides of the sexes have been developed under the pressure of unequal economic and social conditions is for the most part ignored. Until all artificial restraints have been removed from the "weaker" sex, ethical-psychological sex differences must remain a mere matter for conjecture. To dogmatise about fundamental inalienable sex characteristics, under any known conditions, is as reasonable as to dogmatise upon the character and habits of the lion in his lair, from what the keeper says of the tricks and manners of the lion in captivity. However, so long as the cage door is kept shut, the dogmatist is on the safe side. A. W. L.

BOOKS OF INTEREST TO SUFFRAGISTS.

Dell's (Floyd) "Women as World-Builders." (Chicago: Forbes.)

Mead (Lucia Ames) "Swords and Ploughshares." (Putnam. 9s. net.) A contribution to the Peace movement.

"The Book of Public Speaking." Edited by Arthur Charles Fox-Davies. (Caxton Publishing Co. 8s. 6d.)

Roberts (Jean) "The Emancipation of Woman seen in Musings on the *Magnificat*." With an Introduction by the Rev. W. F. La Trobe-Bateman. (Mowbray. 1s. net.)

Birt (Lilian M.) "The Children's Home-Finder" (Nisbet. 3s. 6d. net.)

Wallace (Alfred Russel) "Social Environment and Moral Progress." (Cassell. 3s. 6d. net.)

Julius M. Price. "Dame Fashion: Paris-London, 1786-1912." (Sampson Low.)

Salt (Henry S.) "Percy Bysshe Shelley: Poet and Pioneer." (Watts. 1s. net.) A life of Shelley, the main object of which is to make clear his views regarding the emancipation of women and other modern social problems.

"A Turkish Woman's European Impressions." By Zeyneb Hanoum. Edited and with an Introduction by Grace Ellison. (Seeley, Service and Co.)



The Latest Fashion in Tailor-made Gowns

The "BURLINGTON," pictured on left, is a Tailor-made Suit cut on perfect lines—being an exact copy of an original Paris model. Made in Bedford Cords, Striped Suitings, also black, navy and cream Coatings. Coat lined **5 Gns.** Satin.



The "TROUVILLE," on right, is a distinctive Tailor-made available in black, navy and cream Suiting Serge of excellent quality, Coat has the new Waistcoat made of **5 Gns.** cream Satin, and the becoming strap at back.

Patterns post free on request.

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Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, May 2, 1913.

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

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

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom ... 6/6 per annum, post free.
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"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Book-stalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

PATIENCE AND PURPOSE.

"Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, or to take arms against a sea of troubles, and, by opposing, end them." That is the question; as for Hamlet, when Shakespeare created him, a type for all time, so for the women of to-day.

Hamlet spoke for the individual; women, when they ask the question, are speaking for the world. Is it nobler to suffer in the mind the knowledge of widespread woes, of the degradation of the helpless, the exploiting of the weak, or to take arms and fight the evils? Is it better to be patient or rebellious, law abiding or law defying, when the law fails in protection and covers injustice?

We know the answer of authority. "Be patient! sit down and wait! Reverence the Constitution!" As though the constitution of to-day were the constitution of yesterday, as though it were something not made with hands, eternal, unimpeachable; instead of being built up as it has been, by human blood and human suffering, through revolt, through experience, subject to much change, the outcome of invincible demands, imperious necessities! Religion—no, not religion, but its conventional formula—prescribes submission, and talks of the Sermon on the Mount, talks of the turning of the other cheek! The other cheek! What other cheek do these good people turn who exalt an armchair in the home above the plinth of Trafalgar-square? What cheek do they turn to the white slave trader, the sweater, the destroyers of child innocence and child life? The other cheek do they turn, those who have not yet been buffeted on the one? No, but the others' cheek, the cheeks of all those defenceless ones, whose whole faces receive the whole force of all the hardships that complacent power inflicts on impotent weakness. Let all these cheeks be turned to the smiter, while the good people read their Bibles, skipping the command to bear one another's burdens, and the true women depart no whit from St. Paul's ideal of womanhood, save in the matter of plaiting of hair and putting on of apparel. As to facing stripes, imprisonment, dangers, and hardships as St. Paul faced them—that is not dreamt of in their philosophy.

There is a story of Olive Schreiner's execrably unconventional in its purport, beautifully true. A woman found her way into heaven and stood before the Lord Christ. And He said to her: "How came thy garments to be so white?" She answered that she had kept them very pure and clean on earth, and avoided mire and dirt. She had seen a woman lying in the gutter and had trodden on her so that she might keep her raiment white and her feet from being soiled. At her words the countenance of the Christ was sad, the angels veiled their faces, and heaven vanished. Then, back on earth, the woman went among the wretched and the degraded,

and thought only how she could help them, till a day came when she found lying in the mud a woman of the street. And she raised her up, soiling her own garments, and held her in her arms, and bore her to the gate of heaven. Again she stood before the Lord Christ; again He questioned her. But now He said: "Why do you come here with stained feet and impure garments?" "Lord," she answered, "it is because I lifted my sister out of the mud. It stained my robe and her tears fell on my feet." Then the face of the Christ was glad, and the angels rejoiced; from the woman's garments shone the light of heaven, and it was seen that her feet were decked with pearls.

There are women to-day who go out into the mud and mire, not only of the streets, but of the passion and prejudices of their fellows. There are other women to-day who tread, not only on those who must be rescued, but, in their anxiety to keep themselves free from spot or blemish, also on the rescuers; tread with scorn upon their actions and their motives; keep the garments of conventional womanhood purely white. Yet the wondrous light and the shining pearls are not for them, but for those others, pelted with scorn and contumely, cast into prison, condemned by the law.

In prison? Yes, in the body. But what do the gaolers know, and the judges and the crowds, of what lies behind prison bars? How should they know that the bars are a gateway? How should they dream that on the thither side there is a great light, and that in that light the prison raiment is as shining robes and the contumely lustrous as pearls?

That this is so is known to many to-day. Not to the judges; not to the gaolers; not to the contemptuous, law-abiding men, nor the scornful, reputable women; but to some, both men and women, who perceive in the Woman's Movement the unfolding of a mighty purpose, and in the mud-flecked workers honoured instruments. Not to the judges, not to the gaolers, not to those wedded to apathy and the home. But now and again, in great meetings, when the speaker's words touch hidden strings, and bring into being latent harmonies; now and again, for an instant, the clouds roll apart, from high heaven comes a flash of light, and to the crowd is vouchsafed, dim, swift, and wonderful, a glimmer of the truth. G. COLMORE.

OUR NEW COMPETITION.

ANSWERS TO ANTIS.

We offer each week a PRIZE FOR THE BEST ANSWER to Anti-Suffrage objections. The winning answer will be published in THE VOTE.

This week's objection is: Woman's Place is the Home.

The answer is limited to sixty words; it may be grave or gay.

RULES.

1. The competition is open to all our readers.
 2. Each answer must be accompanied by the coupon below, and give the name and address of the sender.
 3. Answers, written on one side only of the paper, must be addressed to the Editor, VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C., the envelope marked *Prize Competition*, and must reach the VOTE Office on Monday, May 12, 1913. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient if the flap of the envelope is tucked inside.
 4. Competitors may send as many answers as they like, provided each is accompanied by a coupon.
- The prize this week is a 2s. box of chocolate.

COUPON.

"VOTE" PRIZE COMPETITION.

Name

Address

WOMEN IN INDUSTRY.

Gardening for Women.

One of the first to see the possibilities of gardening as a career for women was Viscountess Wolsley, who for several years past has directed a school for women students of horticulture at Glynde, Sussex. In this direction she has been an enthusiast, though, owing to her dislike of speaking on public platforms, it has not always been realised how much attention she has devoted to the subject. The aim of many women who take up gardening is either to grow flowers and vegetables for the markets, or to be called in to advise on the laying out of lawns and terraces. Of late, too, there has grown up an admiration for what may be defined as "period" gardens, and here, again, a chance arises for the woman who can add some artistic knowledge to practical skill. The average working gardener would look aghast at being told to convert some neglected patch into a Tudor garden. Not so Lady Wolsley, who is herself prepared to design and lay out an area in the styles characteristic of the reigns of Henry VIII., Elizabeth, Charles II., or Anne. Recognising, too, that children are now being instructed on systematic lines in gardening, she has introduced portable frames, in which they can watch the progress of simple flowers and other growths.

Laundry Workers' Appeal.

The proposal to schedule the laundry trade as a sweated industry under the Trade Boards Act is receiving considerable support from amongst the women and girls employed in the various laundries round London. To Mr. J. J. Mallon, secretary of the National Anti-Sweating League, a letter has been addressed, on behalf of three or four thousand women engaged in laundries at Action, specially emphasising the fact of the long hours worked several days a week until nine o'clock at night.

"Under the Act (the letter runs) we demand more regular employment spread over the whole week. This would mean shorter hours, more time for home duties, better training for the children, and better able to work when at home. Everybody would benefit, and nothing but the Trades Board Act will enable us to get these conditions."

Laundry proprietors have heard with surprise during the past few days of the decision of the London County Council that it is willing to support the application for the establishment of a Trade Board in the laundry trade. It appears that since May last the Stores and Contracts Committee, when accepting contracts for laundry work at schools, offices, &c., have had the matter under consideration, and considerable correspondence and interviews have taken place between the committee and the London Launderers' Association, the Women's Trade Union League, and the National Federation of Women Workers. The latter organisation having stated that they were prepared to apply to the Board of Trade, with a view to the constitution of a Trade Board, the committee were of opinion that such application should be supported by the London County Council, and have now decided accordingly.—*Standard*.

Women as Rebels.

The lightning "down-tools" policy was successfully carried out by about seventy-five women cardboard box-makers employed by an Oxford-street firm of cigarette manufacturers on March 29.

The box-makers, who do not belong to any Union and who are unorganised, had their wages reduced from 1s. to 8d. per gross boxes. This and other treatment caused the women to revolt. On Saturday morning they informed the management that they would not commence work unless they received their former rates of pay. A deputation waited on the manager. After a lengthy and heated debate, the women succeeded in gaining their demands.

A lightning strike, which adjusted grievances, took place at a German factory in Shepperton-road, Islington, on April 1, where underlinen is made. For some three years, three girls in the ironing department have been employed on skirt work, and their peculiar duties are such that they can earn regular money all the year round. Among the other ironers are girls who contend that they are quite as able to do skirt work as those engaged upon it, but, during slack seasons they cannot make more than 8s. a week. Being All Fools' Day, these girls thought the time opportune to protest for a fair share of the skirt work, so they "downed" irons, and said they would do no more till the labour was properly distributed. The manageress conceded on the spot.

A Woman Sexton.

Crowland, the famous eighth century abbey in the Lincolnshire Fens, has the distinction of possessing a woman sexton, in whose family the appointment has been held continuously for 154 years. Miss Sarah Jane Hill, who was reappointed sexton for the thirteenth time at the Easter vestry, is the second woman in the family who has held the post. Miss Hill's duties are chiefly concerned with the care of the interior of the abbey, but she is responsible also for the digging of the graves. She has never done this work herself, and now that her nephew has reached man's estate she deposes that part of the work to him. He is the last of the family. Curfew is rung every evening at 8 o'clock, and that is one of the sexton's duties Miss Hill often performs.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

High Hopes for Success in U.S.A.

In the Senate of the United States on April 7, 1913, Mr. Chamberlain introduced the following Joint Resolution, which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Woman Suffrage:—

JOINT RESOLUTION, proposing an amendment to the constitution of the United States extending the right of Suffrage to Women.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled (two-thirds of each House concurring therein) that the following Article be proposed to the Legislatures of the several States as an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, which, when ratified by three-fourths of the said Legislatures, shall be valid as part of said Constitution, namely:—

ARTICLE.—Section 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

Section 2. The Congress shall have power, by appropriate legislation, to enforce the provisions of this Article.

Since the reference to the Committee news has been called that members of the United States Senate Committee on Woman Suffrage have practically decided to report favourably on one of several pending resolutions to amend the Federal Constitution in order to give Women the Franchise. This resolution will be brought up in the Senate under the auspices of the chairman, Mr. Thomas, and a determined effort will be made to pass it this Session.

American Women Suffragists Received at the Capitol.

The Prime Minister of Great Britain can give no time to hear Women Suffragists state their case. Contrast this, and the old story of riding women down by police, with the following:—

"Representing every Congressional district and bearing petitions demanding a constitutional amendment for Votes for Women, 500 Woman Suffragists marched to the Capitol, on April 7, and delivered their demand in person to their Congressmen. Unlike the Suffrage Pageant, March 3, the marchers moved over perfectly cleared streets and under a police guard which was almost as numerous as the Suffragists.

"Inside the Capitol building Miss Alice Paul, who headed the procession, was greeted by Representative Bryan, of Washington, who halted the marchers long enough to make an address of welcome. He declared 'there were enough men in the Senate, and House to make it certain that the flag of Woman Suffrage never would be pulled down in the United States.' A party of Senators greeted the women in the rotunda. Among them were Senators Brady, La Follette, Jones, Shafroth, Poindexter, Townsend, Sutherland, and Thomas.

"Formal resolution proposing constitutional amendments giving women the right to vote were introduced in both Houses of Congress, together with scores of petitions and memorials from various societies and individuals."

£600 Post for a Woman Suffragist—in America.

Mrs. Anne Rogers, the wife of a prominent business man of Leadville, Colorado, and widely known as a Suffragist, has been appointed receiver in the Government's land office at Leadville at a salary of \$3,000 (£600). Mr. F. K. Lane, Secretary of the Interior, expressed his pleasure at the appointment, because he said it was a well-known fact in the United States that money can be handled more safely by a woman than a man.

Financiers and Suffragists.

Wall-street, the shrine of New York Finance, which was hostile a year ago to the Woman Suffragette movement, gave a most cordial reception recently to an invasion of Suffragists, who marched through the street leading four gaily-decorated mules and a small four-wheeled cart. The mules, possibly, were symbolic of male obstinacy.

A Freewoman of the City—of London Perhaps.

When the application of Mary Ann Wickham, widow, of Beeston Gift Almshouses, Albert-road, Peckham, for the Freedom of the City of London was made at the Court of Common Council, on April 17, one member immediately asked: "Is she a Suffragette?" Another, Mr. Miller Wilkinson, said he was not very fond of the ladies, and any step that could be taken to prevent them getting a vote in the City would receive his support.

The City Chamberlain, in reply to a question, said that, speaking at the moment, he knew of no restrictions which prevented the Freedom of the City being granted to women, but if the Court desired he would look into the subject.

Eventually it was decided that applications by thirteen men should be granted, and that of Mrs. Wickham should be referred back so that the Chamberlain might look up precedents.

SUFFRAGINES, NOT SUFFRAGETTES.—The women of Chaux de Fonds, which has a population of 38,000, have just formed a league to demand the vote in all social and political affairs. They, however, do not like the word "Suffragettes," and have chosen the word "Suffragines," which, they say, is more harmonious to the ear. The programme of the new group of women, says *The Standard*, is the same as the "old" Suffragettes. Only the name is new.

CRUSHED.

"It isn't their fault they're inferior," said the man, magnanimously; "they can't help it. It's the natural state of things."

The woman smiled. "There you're wrong," she said; "when we refer to Nature we find that it is not the natural state; she seems to have turned them out as nearly alike as it is possible to be."

"But they have been acknowledged from all time and by all nations as inferior. If it were otherwise the truth would have leaked out in less than a score of centuries."

"But aeroplanes—"

"Ah, yes! I thought you would say that; but this is purely a question of Nature—a physical question."

"Now I have some ground to work on," said the woman.

"You say that the deflection is purely a result of Nature's methods. Inferiority is the eternal and insurmountable heritage of the female?"

"Precisely," said the man.

"Then it is her sex and, her sex alone, which detracts?"

"Yes, that's all, but it's sufficient."

"Then the mare is inferior to the horse, I suppose—"

"Well—er—"

"—the queen-bee to the drone?"

"We are dealing with man, I think."

"Yes, as an animal."

"No, as an intellectual being."

"But sex is not mental."

"I retract 'inferior.' The sexes are physically unequal."

"If two things are unequal, one must be the greater. I gather from your argument that the male is that one."

"Physically—yes."

"Then not mentally? The inferiority is purely bodily, the brain power is equal?"

"As the brain is, in one way, physical, it is also affected. That stands to reason."

"Then we are back at the old point. The female is inferior to the male."

"Unequal."

"We have already seen that that works out to the same thing. The cow is naturally and unavoidably inferior to the bull?"

"No. Let us keep to the human side of the question. How do you reconcile to your argument the disproportion between the world's great men and its great women?"

"Oh, we are running before we have walked. If it is not the animal side of the question which affects female intellect, what is it? For doing without the animal side we do without sex. You have already agreed that a female is inferior, solely and only because she is a female. How do you account for that?"

"Well, they aren't equal," said the man; "and no amount of argument will alter the fact."

The woman shrugged her shoulders. "Bless my soul!" she said, and retired from the discussion.

"Yes, tackled me with 'Equality of the Sexes,'" said the man afterwards at his club; "but I squashed her in no time. No logic!"

D. SILLAVAN.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

WILL HOLD

A RECEPTION

AT

CAXTON HALL, Monday, May 5,

AT 3.30 P.M.

IN HONOUR OF

MRS. CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT

(President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance).

Speeches at 4 p.m. by Mrs. CHAPMAN CATT, Mrs. DESPARD and Miss NINA BOYLE.

MUSIC. REFRESHMENTS.

Tickets, 1s. each, from W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

LIVING PICTURES.

Imagination can take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; or it can make its bed in Hell. Without imagination the sorrow on the sea of unrest is often unheeded because unrealised.

A lack of imagination may render a woman as dead to her place in the scheme of things as is the stuffed specimen in the glass case beloved of sportsmen. Should she further resemble the stuffed specimen in unnatural history in being environed by artificiality and pretence, there is little hope that a knowledge will ever get to her of her responsibilities to the race.

Little reaches the ordinary person that has not filtered through the various accredited media provided for instruction and enterprise. In other words, the education that has tended to disturb, or destroy the masculine standard of ethics, has been repressed, or eliminated. To this we owe the persistence, not only in the sheltered class, but in all classes, of the masculine ideal of womanhood.

The result is disastrous to both sexes. The most serious consequence is suggested by a great dramatist, in the words he puts into the mouth of his hero; speaking about his wife, Solness says:—

—she, too, had her vocation in life, just as much as I had mine. But her vocation has had to be stunted, and crushed, and shattered—in order that mine might force its way to—a sort of great victory. For you must know that Aline—she, too, had a turn for building. . . . For building up children's souls in perfect balance, and in noble and beautiful forms. For enabling them to soar up erect and full-grown human souls.

The woman the man has moulded is a failure; and it is this would-be artist in human clay who is the most dissatisfied with his handiwork. He says the fault is in the medium; he has to learn that the vessel was marred in the hands of the potter.

The woman, too, has to learn that her passivity arrests her own development, and lays grievous burdens upon others.

And it had to be demonstrated to the unimaginative and conventional, in ways unmistakable, that their ideals are based upon prejudice and supposed self-interest, and that they are worshipping false gods.

It seems, then, that the interests of the race demanded some sort of moral earthquake. Something to cut athwart and shatter the conventional standards and stagger humanity. Something to remove for ever from the people of England the plea of ignorance, as an excuse for apathy and inaction, and to bring about a renaissance of virtues, the suspension of which from office, threatens the existence of the nation.

As if to meet this demand, the Suffragette was born, to suffer in sight the sufferings of those out of sight. To be "made a spectacle unto the world and to angels and to men."

The most effective and far-reaching method of teaching is by means of pictures. It is not given to everyone to understand the lessons of history, or to decipher the mystical "writing on the wall." These living pictures have revealed to the world, in a flash, the state of our civilisation, the condition of the laws, the character of the Government, the relative value of property and persons, the nature of punishment, the methods of the Press, and the position of woman.

Many Suffragists knew, before the coming of the Suffragette, of abuses having their roots in the subjection of women; but it is doubtful if even the Suffragette realised the noisome beasts that would be unearthed by the lifting of the stone, and by her courage and determination to right, at whatever cost to herself, the wrongs of the weak and oppressed.

For the Suffragette has been hurled into an Inferno. She has been struck at, not by the law, but from behind the law. She has endured prison, torture, infamy, and the savagery of an unbridled mob.

On the stage the actor who, for conscience sake, braves a mock mob, and goes to a mock doom with "No surrender" on his lips, excites admiration and

applause. The little army from "the valley of vision" that plays its high part in the drama of life is execrated and spat upon.

And oh, for a seer to discern the same!
For a poet's tongue of baptismal flame
To call the tree or the flower by its name!

The living pictures are not given to the public from behind the footlights. One may be formed at any moment in the street, in the market place, in the political meeting, in the Law Courts, in prison, in the torture chamber.

The Government is entirely responsible for the tragedy of these living pictures. It has sown the wind, and is reaping the whirlwind; for these same pictures are now as sky-signs advertising to the world all that has gone to the making of them.

A. W. LANCE.

WOMEN DEMAND RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES.

The meetings of the Women's Tax Resistance League are always characterised by enthusiasm and energy, and, in accordance with tradition, the boldest defiance was hurled at the Government—which robs women at its convenience and refuses to enfranchise them—on April 28, by the speakers at the Caxton Hall meeting. Mr. Zangwill's most apt witticisms and Earl Russell's genially baited thrusts, however, were not more sure in their aim than the calm declarations of Dr. Elizabeth Wilks that she would adopt every possible means to prevent the Government touching her money, or the clear-cut statements of Miss Amy Hicks about the injustice legally imposed upon women. Dr. Wilks fearlessly exposed her plan of action if the Government persisted in further attempts to obtain money from her, unless she were enfranchised and given legal status as a citizen of common sense. There would be neither house, furniture, banking account, nor dividends for them to touch, and she urged other women to be equally defiant in face of injustice. The official statement that because the loss of one and a-half million sterling would be involved if the Treasury regarded a wife's income as separate from that of her husband, was, said Mr. Zangwill, the most shameful justification for highway robbery. Earl Russell pointed out that in spite of some sign of Government penitence over the Mark Wilks case, the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not yet announced any attempt to abolish the anomaly of the law of the responsibility of the husband to make a statement of his wife's income, and his right to payment of rebate on it. Miss Hicks showed that all husbands were not ideal; some refused to make a claim for rebatement; others found the rebatement convenient for their own use. The resolution was carried calling upon the Chancellor of the Exchequer to amend the income-tax so as to give married women full rights and responsibilities with regard to the taxation of their income.

THE INCOME TAX QUERY.

(With Apologies to Lewis Carroll.)

"Will you kindly state your income?" said a husband to his wife.
"I know I cannot touch it; it belongs to you for life;
And Income-tax you've rightly paid upon your property—
But I'm claiming the abatement, which will all come back to me.
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you name
the sum?
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you name
the sum?"

"You really have no notion how delightful it will be
When abatement on our incomes, yours and mine, comes back
to me.

"I'll buy a motor-cycle, or I think, perhaps, dear spouse,
I'll visit Bonnie Scotland, spend a week among the grouse.

Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, will you name
the sum?
Will you, won't you, will you, won't you, won't you name
the sum?"

"I'm sure you will not grudge me such a modest luxury.
I have always given you credit for your generosity."
But the wife replied "Not so, not so!" and looking rather glum,
Said she thanked her husband kindly, but she would not name the sum.

Would not, could not, would not, could not, would not name
the sum,
Would not, could not, would not, could not, could not name
the sum. H. S.

CARPETS AND CURTAINS.—Has the sunshine discovered the shabbiness of your carpets and curtains? Then the best remedy is to go to Messrs. William Owen, Westbourne-grove, who this week are offering for sale at half the usual prices the stock of a Kidderminster manufacturer. Once inside the doors the household linen, bedding, china and glass will appeal by reason of their excellent value, and the dainty catalogue of the drapery departments will prove a different, but no less irresistible, attraction.

CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAYS."

"Our Invisible Rulers."

A large audience gathered on Wednesday, April 23, to hear Mrs. Merivale Mayer speak on "What We are Striving For." Their expectations were finely rewarded, for in a powerful address she showed how vitally important to the nation was the work which women demand to do as citizens, not as outlaws. She arraigned our boasted civilisation as resulting in evils worse than that of Orientals, whom we so easily condemn. In their blindness to the well-being of the community the authorities, she said, took no practical far-reaching steps to deal with poverty, the lowering of the national physique, and its evils of increasing insanity. Our invisible rulers had killed patriotism. Love of home and love of country was natural, and in natural conditions would not need conscription to preserve it. She insisted that man's subjection of woman was largely responsible for many evils; she was looked upon only as an instrument to be used, required all her life to serve the male. Things happened in this country without causing any outburst of indignation, she added, which would be impossible in Australia, where women were politically free. She instanced the murder of the girl scout, for which no one had yet been brought to justice, and went on to speak of Woman Baiting as a new Sunday diversion for hooligans in London's parks. The courage of women was collectively irresistible, and must win. To allow one-half of humanity to prey upon the other could only end in disaster. The awakening of women was a blessing to the world.

Mrs. Despard gave an amusing account of a visible ruler, "King McKenna," and insisted that the order to prohibit Suffrage meetings in Hyde Park was the thin end of the wedge in a campaign against freedom, and a beginning had been made with those who were deemed weakest—women. Miss Boyle told of the success of a Tax Resistance and Suffrage meeting at Brighton, at which keen interest was shown by a large and orderly crowd. As the meeting was unannounced no planned hooliganism disturbed it.

INDIAN IDEALS CONCERNING WOMEN.

It was fitting that an Indian woman should preside at a lecture on the position of Indian women, and our member, Mrs. Dubé, was warmly welcomed at the Freedom League Office on April 25, when from the chair she introduced Prof. Baral, M.A., as lecturer. Professor Baral gave an interesting summary of Indian ethics, explaining that the dominant motive was non-interference with the self-development of the individual. Man did not regard himself as superior to woman in moral or intellectual strength. Specialisation of functions was the origin of the caste system. Woman was protected in order to be better able to fulfil her special function. The ancient laws decreed that a husband who deserted his wife must put on upside down the skin of an ass and, confessing his sin, beg from door to door. The true relationship was that the husband loved and worshipped his wife as the ideal of conscious power; the wife loved and worshipped her husband as the ideal of good; together they worshipped Truth.

Professor Baral told how in ancient times Indian women were among Kings' Counsellors, led armies in battle, wrote poems, and carried on philanthropic work. The characteristics of Indian women he declared to be their great faith in the hereafter, devotion to the ideal, emotional sympathy, keen intuition, occult powers, and altruistic love of home. In the changing conditions of the centuries women, he said, had not degenerated as men had done. The awakening self-consciousness of women was the greatest characteristic of the age. An Indian sage had said: "Cursed is the land where women dwell discontented."

IN HYDE PARK.

The Mid-London Branch held their meeting in Hyde Park at noon on Sunday last, the speakers being Miss Andrews and Mr. J. Y. Kennedy, with Mrs. Juson Kerr in the chair. The audience were quite orderly, but the meeting was brought to a close earlier than usual because of the heavy rain.

The Suffrage Club,

3, York Street, St. James's Square, S.W.

THE CLUB has been formed as a Social Club for
MEN AND WOMEN
interested in the Suffrage Movement.

CONSTANT LECTURES ARRANGED.

On **TUESDAY, MAY 6th,**
A MEETING will be held at 3.30 p.m.

Speakers:—C. W. SALEEBY, Esq., M.D., F.R.S.E.

A. HAMILTON, Esq. (Sec. Divorce Law Reform).

Chair:—THE LADY WILLOUGHBY DE BROKE.

Subject:—"Divorce Law Reform and the Royal Commission."

There are only a few vacancies remaining for Founder Members at £1 ls. subscription and no entrance fee.

EARLY APPLICATION ADVISABLE.

The Board of Management have decided to reserve a few bedrooms for lady members wishing to make a prolonged stay in the Club. Inclusive terms from 25s. weekly. Further particulars, SECRETARY.

WOMEN VOTERS IN ENGLAND IN 1807.

Those who heard or read Miss Helena Normanton's lecture on English Reform Bills will be interested in the following extract from "Annals of a Yorkshire House," by A. M. W. Stirling (J. Lane, 1911), p. 319, Vol. II. :-

Moreover, once during a contest for one of the County Boroughs, at the General Election in 1807, when the candidates felt so confident of success that they announced that their womenfolk need not vote, Mary Winifred (Spencer-Stanhope) expressed herself strongly in a letter to her son, John, upon the slight which this represented to her sex. "Your father was at Wakefield yesterday, canvassing. The contest will be a light one, and probably cost more than the place is worth. There will be Peers and Gentlemen without end, but they have determined not to admit the Ladies to vote, which is very hard considering how few privileges we poor females have. Should it come to a very close struggle, I daresay they will then call for the ladies, and in that case every self-respecting woman should most certainly refuse her assistance."

The following is a footnote from the book :-

"Before the passing of the Reform Bill of 1832, women were entitled to exercise the Parliamentary franchise, and only on the passing of what was somewhat illogically known as the 'People's Bill' were they deprived of representation, the word 'male' being then for the first time in any Statute of the Realm, interpolated before the word 'person.' Why this was done is not known, but there are grounds for believing it was purely accidental. Lord Brougham, in 1850, brought in a Bill for shortening the language used in Acts of Parliament, which enacted that 'words importing the masculine gender shall be taken and deemed to include females, except when the contrary is expressly provided;' while the Reform Bill of 1832 restored the ancient word 'Man' to the charters in lieu of the innovation 'Male persons.' It was then pointed out in the House that, 'in the light of Lord Brougham's Act, . . . this conferred the Suffrage on female persons as well as on males'; and that as in former times no legal bar existed to the right of women to vote. When, however, in 1868, eight thousand women entered their names as voters in order to claim their ancient privilege, the judges gave an adverse decision, one of their reasons for this being that the privilege of voting as formerly possessed by



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women was seldom, if ever, exercised. Mrs. Stanhope's letter is therefore of peculiar interest, as showing that the women of her day not only exercised their right as citizens, but valued it highly."

AN INDIGNANT LIBERAL.

Writing to the Secretary of the Glasgow Liberal Club to resign his membership, a well-known and highly respected Glasgow citizen gave his reasons as follows :-

Dear Sir,—As a form of protest against the dastardly treatment that the Liberal Government has been, and is, meting out to women who are fighting heroically for a good cause, culminating in the one-sided trial of Mrs. Pankhurst and condemning her to imprisonment with common criminals, I beg to inform you of my intention not to renew my membership of the Club after the expiry of the current year. In addition to this, I intend strongly to oppose the Liberal Candidates in both the constituencies for which I have a vote unless they undertake to vote for Women Suffrage, and until the women get the vote for which they are so justly and bravely asking.—Yours faithfully,
GLASGOW, April 4. A DISGUSTED LIBERAL.

LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL: JUMBLE SALE.

The Jumble Sale to be held in conjunction with the [Northern Heights Branch has been fixed for Saturday, May 24. The Council is very anxious to add a substantial sum to its exchequer in order to carry on its work, and we rely on our members not only to send things themselves, but to get as many people as possible to promise parcels.

Will everyone please note that articles of all kinds are acceptable—clothes, boots and shoes, furniture, bicycles, &c., also hats and hat trimmings, flowers, ribbons, feathers—as we are to have an afternoon for hat-trimming? We shall want many helpers. Contributions may be sent to Mrs. Huntsman, at 1, Robert-street, or Miss Mitchell, Meroh, Great North-road, Highgate, N., now.

ETHEL CLAYTON.

ONE HUNDRED ROWDIES VERSUS THE POLICE.

Mr. J. Malcolm Mitchell, writing to us with regard to last Sunday's meeting of the Men's League for Woman Suffrage, which was broken up, says, as chairman, he made it clear that the League was a body of constitutional Suffragists and had obtained the usual permit to resume the propagandist meetings which it has held for the past five years.

He continues: "After my speech my colleague, Mr. Gugenheim, sought to speak on the economic question, when suddenly a section of the audience initiated a rush towards the lorry. After a short time the crowd began to rush the lorry, but were then stopped by mounted police. I had a discussion with the inspector in charge who informed me that I had better close the meeting, otherwise he must do so himself. My colleagues and I at once acquiesced, and after walking a hundred yards or so were left quite unmolested.

"The essential point is the question of freedom of speech. The League is well known as a constitutional body, and has never sought to override or neglect police regulations. Yet in a Royal park a hundred rowdies are able, in spite of a large force of the police, to prevent our being heard, and, so far as I know, not one was arrested for interfering with the police in the discharge of their duty."

INDIAN DRAMA IN LONDON.—The Indian Art, Dramatic and Friendly Society will give the historical Indian play, *Ratnavali (A Necklace)*, on May 15, 22, and 29 at the Cosmopolis Theatre, 201, High Holborn, W.C., at 2.30 p.m. It is a romantic comedy based upon events which took place in Ceylon at the end of the eleventh century. The authorship is attributed to King Sri Harsha Deva, who reigned in Kashmere from A.D. 1113 to 1125 A.D. It will be preceded by *The Maharani of Arakan*, by Mr. George Calderon, founded on the story of the distinguished Indian poet, Rabindra Nath Tagore. By request the Society is arranging to repeat the celebrated classical play, *Sakuntala*, on May 20 and 29, at 2.30 p.m.

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Manual for Health and the Toilet, abounding
in useful hints and information.
It may be had free on application upon
mentioning this paper.

THE GOVERNMENT THE CULPRITS.

Enthusiastic Meeting at Glasgow.

The Athenaeum at Glasgow was crowded to overflowing on Monday evening, April 21, on the occasion of a meeting arranged by the Glasgow Branch of the Women's Freedom League. The speakers were Mrs. Pethick Lawrence and Miss Eunice Murray, and the chair was taken by Miss Constance Andrews. On the platform, supporting the speakers, were Dr. and Mrs. Murray, Mr. and Mrs. Kelsall, Mr. Young, Rev. Mr. Falconer, Mrs. Judd, Miss Love, Dr. Chapman, Miss Dron, Miss Cooper, Mrs. Wilson, Miss Bunten. The Chairman called attention to the policy and constitution of the Women's Freedom League, and gave a brief survey of Women's Suffrage Bills that had been before Parliament. She then read the following resolution, "That this meeting calls upon the Government to introduce, without delay, a measure giving parliamentary electoral rights to women." Mrs. Pethick Lawrence, who received a splendid ovation, supported the resolution. She said the women's movement was not primarily or essentially a women's movement—it was a great movement for human liberty, and human liberty was an ideal as sexless as it was great and inspiring. The weapon of physical force had not been chosen by the women, it had been forced upon them. The Government had chosen the weapons whereby women had to fight. It was upon them that the anger of the people must be directed, against them and their allies, a biased and venal administration of the law, a lying and subsidised Press, and an incited and encouraged mob. It had always been a fact, that when a Government prevented the working out of the laws of evolution, that the consequence was revolution.

Miss Eunice Murray made an eloquent appeal that the subject should receive earnest consideration, and described the real meaning of the familiar words "Votes for Women." She gave an amusing account of the W.F.L. Deputation to Mr. McKenna which delighted the audience. Mr. McKenna, she said, remarked "You really must submit," whereupon the reply was "Do we look like submitting, do you think submission to injustice is a characteristic of Suffragettes?"

The resolution was carried without one dissident. A collection of £14 13s. 4d. was taken, and many names were given in of those wishing to join the League.

THE MARCH FROM HORSHAM TO BRIGHTON.

We publish with pleasure the following letter from Mrs. de Fonblanque, and wish the Marchers great success :-

DEAR MADAM,—May I appeal through your columns on behalf of a series of "Marches" which the Marchers' *Qui Vive* Corps intend to make during the summer months?

The long "March" from Edinburgh to London proved conclusively that marches are an attractive form of propaganda; and, speaking from first-hand knowledge, I can affirm they are, as profitable as attractive. They are most effective in arousing and educating the countryside, where Suffrage propaganda seldom penetrates; they afford opportunities for coming into close relationship with many phases of life, with which women alone can deal, and they provide a wide scope of experience for those who participate, and an education for which I am sure they will always be grateful.

Every Suffragist should adopt some form of openly showing sympathy with our Cause, and the "March" from Horsham to Brighton, now advertised in your paper, is an opportunity by which this may be done in pleasant companionship and at small financial expense.

The Cause for which we strive is a worthy one, and must be made to live in the public mind. We must bring it to the doors of those who will not heed or understand. Who will help?—Faithfully yours,

FLORENCE DE FONBLANQUE, Hon. Organiser and Leader.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL DEBATING SOCIETY.

A meeting of the Women's Political Debating Society was held at 1, Robert-street, on Thursday, April 24, when Mrs. Tanner gave a very able address on "Will Democracy Lead to Anarchy?" She considered that we need more economic independence to get near to democracy, in that it implies fullest freedom for all, and that anarchy, in the constitutional sense, is the ideal state. Questions and discussion brought a very interesting meeting to a close. Particulars of next meeting will be announced later.

IGNORANCE is no longer an excuse for women. Their purity must consist in knowledge; for knowledge is power, and the mothers of the race must know the conditions under which their young must work and live, if they are to wrap them round with moral armour.—Mrs. Gessell, Yale, U.S.A.



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SPIRITUAL MILITANCY LEAGUE FOR THE WOMEN'S CHARTER OF RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES.

Chairman: MRS. STANTON COIT. Hon. Treas.: LADY ABERCONWAY. Hon. Sec.: MRS. SAUTER. Office: 46, Queen's-road, Bayswater, W.

The League has issued the following Manifesto :-

We have banded ourselves together with the aim of concentrating attention upon the spiritual and vital issues involved in the Women's Movement. We fear that these issues are in danger of being lost sight of in the present struggle.

We desire to unite all who believe that the supreme power of woman is a spiritual power; and from this point of view we would make a greater effort than has yet been made to awaken the imagination and rouse the conscience of the public as to the wrongs suffered by women and, through them, by the community.

We intend to resort to no methods of violence nor any action which may endanger life or property, but, by concentration upon the ideal of social justice, by reliance upon the spiritual force which is at the heart of all progress, by perfectly peaceful protest, by extending the knowledge of *The Women's Charter*, and by working for the reforms it advocates, we will attempt to create an irresistible wave of public opinion in favour of the complete emancipation of women.

We append a list of some of the more flagrant disabilities which we desire to have removed :-

1. **Parliamentary Franchise.**—Women have no voice in choosing representatives for Parliament. No Member of Parliament is responsible directly to them in making laws which concern their own and their children's welfare.

2. **Coveture.**—By this principle of law a married woman is still in many particulars not held legally responsible for her actions. This degrades the status of woman.

3. **Maintenance.**—A wife cannot by law force her husband to maintain her, except by going into the workhouse and trusting the Poor Law Guardians to do so.

4. **Earnings.**—A wife who spends all her time in domestic work for husband and family cannot legally claim as remuneration any part of her husband's earnings.

5. **Partnership.**—A wife working in partnership with her husband has no legal claim to any part of their profits.

6. **Assault.**—The penalties for assaults on wives are usually far too slight, because imprisonment of men for brutality throws their wives and children on the rates, there being no provision for them but that of paupers.

7. **Divorce.**—A woman cannot obtain divorce on the ground of unfaithfulness of the husband, but must prove either cruelty or desertion as well. A man can obtain divorce on the first ground alone. Inability to get divorce for lunacy or habitual drunkenness presses less hardly on a man than on a woman who becomes the mother of feeble-minded children.

8. **Guardianship of Children.**—A woman has no legal right to the guardianship of her own child, legitimate or illegitimate, nor legal power to determine its education, religion, profession or domicile.

9. **Immorality.**—The difference of treatment of men and women in the case of immorality is flagrant. The mother of an illegitimate child can make no claim on the father for her own maintenance during inability to work. Difficulties of obtaining even the 5s. weekly to which the child is entitled are almost insuperable. If driven by desperation to infanticide, she may be hanged or imprisoned. The man cannot be touched by law.

10. **Age of Marriage.**—The age of legal marriage for girls is twelve years; that for boys fourteen. The age at which a girl becomes responsible for her honour is sixteen. It should be eighteen.

11. **Assault on Girls.**—Punishment for the crime of assault on young girls and children is very light, often far lighter than that for larceny and other minor crimes.

12. **Disinheritance.**—A man may wholly disinherit wife and children, yet the widow is bound to maintain the children. When there is no will, landed property goes to sons before daughters, and of personal property the wife inherits one-third, and, if there are no children, one-half. Whereas a husband can legally claim the whole of his wife's property at her death, if she dies without making a will.

13. **Education and Professions.**—Women are excluded from many educational advantages and professional bodies, even when equally qualified for them with men.

14. **Wages.**—There is no law to enforce equal pay for women and men for equal work. The sweating of women's work is one great cause which drives women to an immoral life for subsistence.

15. **Juries.**—Women are not allowed to sit on juries, and may be excluded from the courts, even when members of their own sex are being tried.

16. **The State Church.**—Women are excluded from Holy Orders, though the early Church and various denominations of our own times have admitted them as ministers.

The symbol of the League is an orange scarf, to be worn with black or dark-coloured dress. The scarf may be obtained post free for 2s., and also *The Women's Charter* (by Lady Aberconway), 7d., on application to the Hon. Secretary.

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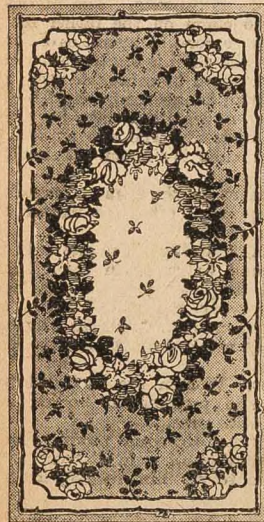
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BRANCH NOTES.

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly on ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, THE VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.

NATIONAL OFFICES, LONDON, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C.

LONDON.—Anerley and Crystal Palace District.—Hon. Sec.: Miss JESSIE PENNING, 149, Croydon-road, Anerley.

A Branch meeting was held at "The Hermitage" on Friday, April 25. The delegate gave her report of the Conference, and suggestions for increasing the sale of THE VOTE locally were discussed. It was arranged that open-air meetings at "The Triangle," Fenge, should start on the first Friday in June.

Croydon.—Office: 32A, The Arcade, High-street. **Hon. Sec.:** Mrs. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue.

At the weekly "At Home" on April 24, Mrs. Ackroyd's address on School Clinics was full of interesting information. The great need for woman's direct voice, not only in administration, but in legislation, was most clearly shown. The speaker emphasized the great loss that is felt by women who are helping in the administration of local affairs but have no power to effect changes in legislation. School Clinics were shown to be essential for the health of the children, and the consequent good of the adult population. The next "At Home" will be on Thursday, May 8. As a committee meeting will be held on April 28, the one previously announced for May 5 will not be held.

PROVINCES.—Brighton and Hove.—Hon. Sec.: Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove.

The Tax Resistance meetings passed off very successfully. At the auction rooms where the goods of Mr. and Mrs. Francis, and Miss Hare, of the W.F.L., and Miss Turner, of the W.S.P.U., were sold, the auctioneer courteously allowed a few words to be said, and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson explained the situation to a sympathetic audience. Later on an open-air meeting was held on the beach, at which Mr. Francis took the chair, and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson and Miss Nina Boyle spoke. The crowd was entirely appreciative, which is the more gratifying, since only the previous Sunday disorder had been present at another Suffrage meeting. In the evening an indoor meeting was held at the Y.M.C.A., at which the same speakers were heard, and also the ladies whose goods had been sold. The local Branch owes thanks to the two speakers who came and helped in the undoubted success of the protests. On May 8, at 8 p.m., Miss Hare is to speak at the office of the Church League for W. S. at 117, North-street, Brighton, on "The Work of a Teacher of the Deaf," one of a series of lectures describing woman's various spheres of work. On the same date, at 8.15 p.m., Miss White is to speak to the Women's Co-operative Guild in the Pelham-street Schoolroom, Brighton, on "Things that Want Doing." Members and friends are welcome to both meetings.

Burnage.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme.

Our meeting was held last Monday at the house of the secretary, Mrs. Brickhill. There was a fair attendance. After the business had been concluded the opening chapters of "Women and Economics" were read and discussed. A very enjoyable and instructive evening resulted. It is proposed to read the book and to discuss each chapter. The next meeting will be at the house of our treasurer, Mrs. Dent, South-avenue.

Gravesend.—Hon. Sec.: Miss J. BOORMAN, 4, The Grove.

One new member to report. Our arrangements with regard to a literature stall in the market came to an untimely end owing to the Town Clerk informing us that there is "no stall vacant for the purpose of selling suffrage literature." And interesting correspondence is proceeding in the local paper on the question of Women's Suffrage. The following resolution was unanimously adopted at our Meeting on Monday, April 21: "The Gravesend Branch of the Women's Freedom League wish to protest emphatically against the stoppage of Women's Suffrage meetings in London." Copies of this have been sent to the Gravesend Member, the Home Secretary, and the superintendent of the Police at Scotland Yard. Our secretary has received a courteous acknowledgment from the latter. Next Branch meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, at "Aysgarth," Grange-road, at eight o'clock.

Ipswich.—Suffrage Shop, 22, Queen-street. Hon. Sec.: Mrs. PRATT, 160, Norwich-road.

Members and friends worked valiantly to make the Jumble Sale a success on April 22. It was held in the Labour Institute, decorated in the League colours, admission being by 1d. tickets. Of buyers there was no lack, and the proceeds amounted to £4 18s. 6d. We offer our thanks to all who gave—whether of goods, or time and service. At the weekly Branch Meeting on Thursday, there was a very good attendance; all were delighted to see Mrs. Pratt in her place once more. We wish her a full recovery to health, and a return to the splendid work she has done for the League in Ipswich. On Saturday last, members paraded the streets for an hour with posters telling of the Public Meeting on May 1, when Miss Andrews and Miss Boyle are to speak. An excellent reception was given to us. M. K. TROTT.

Manchester Central.—Office: 46A, Market-street. **Hon. Sec.:** Miss A. E. HORDERN, 478, Stockport-road, Longsight.

A gloriously successful open-air meeting was held at Sidney-street, All Saints', on April 22. Miss Hudson, who pluckily took the chair in spite of her recent illness, gave an excellent little speech in introducing the subject. The duties of the police did not commence till the close of the meeting, when the audience, which had given Miss Janet Heyes undivided and rapt attention for almost two hours, could not be persuaded to part with her, and remained in a dense mass till "moved on." THE VOTE sold well from the platform, the crowd appearing quite ready to invest in that or anything else Miss Heyes might have to offer.

The Sale of Work will be opened by Mrs. Despard at 7.30 p.m., May 7, and again on May 8, at 3 p.m. Mrs. Despard will lecture

on "Theosophy and the Woman's Movement," on May 8, at 8 p.m. Will members please send in goods for the refreshment or work-stall as early as possible?—A. H.

There was a fairly good attendance of members at the Sewing Meeting on April 23. Further arrangements for the Sale of Work and the visits of Miss Munro and Mrs. Tippett were discussed. Names of debating and other societies who are likely to accept W.F.L. speakers were handed to the Secretary; we hope in this way we shall reach a new public. Next Wednesday's meeting is again for sewing.—M. J. N.

Middlesbrough.—Hon. Sec.: Miss A. MASON, 35, Albert-terrace. A meeting was held last Monday night in Hinson's Café. Miss W. M. Jones, presided. The secretary read letters from Mr. Philip Snowden, Mr. Bernard Shaw, Rev. R. J. Campbell, and many others, all of whom regretted their inability to take part in any demonstration in Middlesbrough, so again we are obliged to give up the idea of holding a big demonstration in the Town Hall. Very satisfactory reports were given by Mrs. Barrett, merchandise secretary, Miss Hayton, literature secretary, and Mrs. Spencer, treasurer. Arrangements for meetings during the week, May 2 to 8, when Mrs. Tanner is to visit Middlesbrough, were discussed. Open-air meetings are to be held, and two indoor meetings—an "At Home" on Monday evening, May 5, and a debate on the following night have been arranged. Members are asked to do all they can in Vote selling, &c., at these meetings to make them a great success.

SCOTLAND.—Scottish Scattered Members.—Hon. Sec.: Miss EDNICE MURRAY, Moore Park, Cardross, Dumbarton.

We have held two open-air meetings this week. When we arrived at Renton, our goal, we feared at first we should not have a good crowd. However, some young men soon arrived and remarked, "Suffragettes! We'll stay and hear them; they are not so bad as they look!" So, encouraged by this doubtful compliment, we commenced our meeting, and the crowd grew quickly, until it reached enormous proportions. THE VOTE had a ready sale, four dozen being easily disposed of, and we took a good collection. E. G. MURRAY.

Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop, 33, Forrest-road. Hon. Sec.: Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place. **Hon. Treasurer:** Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street. **Hon. Shop Secretary:** Mrs. THOMSON, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

Our programme for May includes a Jumble Sale, a "Hard-up Social," and a "Flitting," besides open-air meetings, so it will be seen that help of all kinds is particularly needed. Goods of all kinds, whether for the Jumble or for the new premises at 90, Lothian-road, will be gladly received at any time. For the Hard-up Social on May 23, an attractive programme, including dramatic sketches and country dances, is being prepared, and Mrs. Despard has very kindly promised to be present and to speak. Bring your own eatables, come in old clothes—and bring friends!

Glasgow.—Suffrage Shop, 70, St. George's-road. Twenty-four dozen copies of THE VOTE have been sold in Glasgow this week, and THE VOTE Brigade is getting into good working order. On Tuesday, April 22, Miss Andrews addressed a meeting of members and sympathisers at Paisley. Miss Dracup presided, and said that two new members had just been added as a result of the outdoor meeting. On Wednesday, 23rd, an open-air meeting was held at Kilmarnock, when the speakers were Miss Andrews and Miss Semple, and they were assisted by Mrs. Scrimgeour and members of the local Branch.

Paisley.—Secretary pro tem., Miss DRACUP, 10, Townhead-terrace, Paisley.

The Paisley members had the pleasure of welcoming Miss Andrews at the Branch meeting on April 22. She explained the work and policy of the League, and encouraged us in further work, hoping the Branch would grow in numbers. A Branch meeting will be held every month, the next is to be on Thursday, May 1.

I DEFFY you to give me three logical reasons, or even one logical reason, why men should have the vote. It is against all reason that the average Englishman, who is incapable of governing a cowshed properly, should be given a vote which affects the government of our Empire. If he alleges that women are still more imbecile politically, he alleges an impossibility which is, anyhow, beside the point.—G. Bernard Shaw.

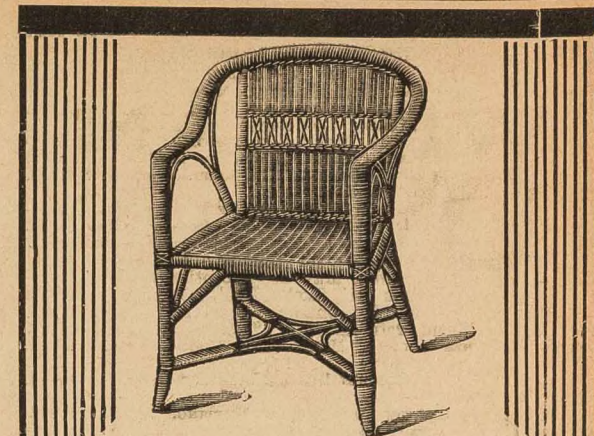
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS. Fri., May 2.—Caxton Hall. Indignation Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Miss Boyle, Mrs. Wood, and Miss Anna Munro. Chairman: Mrs. Huntsman. Sat., May 3.—"AT HOME," at 3, Hurlingham Court, Fulham, by kind invitation of Mrs. Graves. 3.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and others. Sun., May 4.—REGENT'S PARK. Open-air meeting at noon. Speaker: Miss Boyle. Chairman: Mrs. Huntsman. Brockwell Park, 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss Read. Mon., May 5.—Reception to Mrs. Chapman Catt, Caxton Hall, 3.30 p.m. Speeches by Mrs. Chapman Catt, Mrs. Despard and Miss Boyle. Music, refreshments. Tickets, 1s., from Office. LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL MEETING, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, 6.30 p.m. Tues., May 6.—MID-LONDON BRANCH MEETING, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, 8 p.m. Wed., May 7.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING. Speakers: Mr. Laurence Housman on "The Relation of Physical Force to Self-Government," and Miss C. Nina Boyle, 3.30 p.m. LECTURE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C., on "Food Reform," by Captain Walter Carey, R.N., 7.30 p.m. Admission free, collection. Thurs., May 8.—CROYDON WEEKLY "AT HOME," at W.F.L. Office, The Arcade, High-street, Croydon, 3.15 p.m. Sun., May 11.—BROCKWELL PARK, 3 p.m. Mrs. Watson. Tues., May 13.—SUFFRAGE CLUB, 3, York-street, St. James'. Meeting under auspices of Kensington Branch, W.F.L. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. Subject: "The Connection Between Sweated Labour and Immorality." Chair: Miss C. Nina Boyle. Fri., May 16.—"At Home," at 9, Titchfield-terrace, Northgate, Regent's Park, N.W., by kind invitation of Mrs. Carey. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. Afternoon. Sun., May 18.—REGENT'S PARK, Open-air Meeting, noon. Brockwell Park, 3 p.m. Speakers: Mr. H. J. Bostock and Miss Underwood. Wed., May 21.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. Mr. G. E. O'Dell on "The Character of Ann Whitefield in 'Man and Superman.'" Thurs., May 22.—CROYDON WEEKLY "AT HOME," 3.15 p.m. Sun., May 25.—BROCKWELL PARK, 3 p.m. Speaker: Miss Andrews. Wed., May 28.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: D. M. Mason, Esq., M.P., and others.

PROVINCES. Thurs., May 1.—Chester, 13, Abbey-square. Speakers' Class, 5.45 p.m. Subject: "The Need of Militancy." H. F. Brown, Esq., J.P., LL.B.—Ipswich, Small Co-operative Hall, 8 p.m., Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Andrews and Miss Boyle. Chair: Mrs. Tippett. Admission by ticket, to be obtained at the Suffrage Shop. Reserved seats, 1s. Fri., May 2.—Middlesbrough, The Crescent, Newport-road, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner. Sat., May 3.—Middlesbrough, Gresham-road, Open-air Meeting, 3 p.m. Tower House, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Sun., May 4.—Stockton, Market-place, 3 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Mon., May 5.—Liverpool, 9, Rosset-road, Blundellsands. "At Home" to Working Women. Hostess: Mrs. Matthews.—Hanley, Miss Anna Munro, 8 p.m. Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, "At Home," 7.30 p.m. Short speeches by Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Schofield Coates, and Miss W. M. Jones. Burnage, Mrs. Dent's, South-avenue, Branch Meeting, Gravesend, "Aysgarth," Grange-road, Branch Meeting, 8 p.m. Tues., May 6.—Stoke-on-Trent, Miss Anna Munro, 8 p.m. Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café. Debate on Woman Suffrage, 8 p.m. For: Mrs. Tanner. Against: Mr. C. Little. Wed., May 7.—Manchester, 46A, Market-street. Sale of Work. Opener: Mrs. Despard, 7.30 p.m.—Newcastle—Miss Anna Munro, 8 p.m. Middlesbrough, Market-place, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner. Thurs., May 8.—Manchester. Lecture on Theosophy by Mrs. Despard.—Fenton. Miss Anna Munro, 8 p.m. Fri., May 9.—Hanley.—Miss Anna Munro, 8 p.m. Wed., May 28.—Chester. Public Meeting. Speakers: Mr. Laurence Housman and Miss Anna Munro.

SCOTLAND. Sat., May 3.—Glasgow. DENNSTOWN, Jumble Sale. Wed., May 7.—EDINBURGH, Corner of King's Stables-road. Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Sat., May 10.—Edinburgh. Jumble Sale. Fri., May 23.—Edinburgh. Hard-Up Social. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. Dramatic Sketches, Dancing, &c. Tickets, 1s. each. Sat., May 24.—Paisley. Public Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. Sun., May 25.—Dundee.—Public Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Despard.

OTHER SOCIETIES. Catholic Women's Suffrage Society.—Sat., May 3.—Reception by Mrs. R. P. Whately, 75, Harcourt-terrace, Redcliffe-square, 4-6 p.m. For invitations apply at once to Sec., 55, Berners-street. May 4, Feast of Blessed Joan of Arc. Novena for the Suffrage Cause, commencing on Saturday, April 26, and ending on the Feast, earnestly recommended to be made. Jumble Sale. Articles to be sent to Miss Gadsby, 5, Carleton-road, Tufnell-park, N. Sack sent on receipt of postcard. Sun., May 4.—Mrs. Chapman Catt, at the Ethical Church, Queen's-road, Bayswater, on "Heaven East and Christian West." 7 p.m. Reception, 8.30-10 p.m. Tickets, 1s., including buffet supper. Reserved seats for Suffragists and tickets for reception on application to the Hon. Sec., 49, Queen's-road, Bayswater. Free Church League.—Tues., May 6.—Annual Business Meeting. Memorial Hall, Farmington-street, 7 p.m. Speakers: Miss Abadam, Revs. Rhonda Williams, A. C. Hill, and Fleming Williams. Chair: Mrs. Strickland. May 18.—Meeting, Greenwich-road Church. Chairman: Rev. C. Hall. Speaker: Rev. Fleming Williams.

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Suffrage Club, 3, York-street, St. James'.—At a meeting on April 17, Mrs. John Boyd Carpenter presiding, the Rev. C. Llewellyn Smith spoke on "The Significance of the Suffrage Movement." The fundamental reason for Women Suffrage (he said) was that the individual, whether man or woman, should have free opportunity to develop along the line best suited to each. The real strength of the movement was love of freedom, and the belief that the Vote would be a useful weapon in a fight for social reform.

WOMEN must look beyond the four walls which guard them from the elements, when they think of home. Our homes have expanded, and take into account the public streets, the playgrounds, the theatres, the dance-halls, and the workshops of the world, where the youth of the country spend the larger part of their time.—Mrs. Gessell, Yale, U.S.A.

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