

THE VOTE

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

VOL. II.—No. 33.

SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

NOTICE.

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

Offices: 148, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.

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

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WHAT WE THINK.

In the Air.

The spirit of conciliation is undoubtedly in the air. The Veto crisis is not unlikely to be averted by means of compromise between the party leaders, unless the Irish Nationalists oppose any compromise that will reduce their chances of carrying a Home Rule Bill speedily into law. The precedent of the Gladstonian Conference in 1884 over the County Franchise Bill has been recalled, when at the Queen's suggestion Lord Salisbury talked over the Government's Redistribution with Mr. Gladstone, and "a sharp Constitutional crisis" was averted by what Mr. Gladstone called the "delicate and novel communications" between the leaders of the two parties.

But before this Veto compromise was even suggested, the question of conciliation on the woman's question was occupying the attention of all parties of the House. It is said that the Veto compromise is being suggested out of consideration for the new King, and to save him difficulties at the outset of his reign. But to even hint such a thing is to misunderstand the principle of Constitutional monarchy. The Constitutional King is not monarch for his own pleasure; if he takes up the reins of office he is the servant of the people, and the ultimate spoke in the Opposition wheel to be used by the Government, courteously and tactfully, when occasion arises. Hysterical kingship went out when William and Mary came in. The idea of the Veto compromise, then, arises from the fact that the country is tired of the Veto battle. The country, too, is tired of the Suffrage battle, and with the sporting instinct of the British people resents the treatment the Government has given us. Mr. Asquith would be wise if he laid in an olive-tree, for the people want many questions settled—Women's Suffrage, the Veto, Religious Education—and of all possible compromises that which would give us a measure of justice would be hailed with the most unanimous approbation. The tide of compromise if political prophets are right, will flow steadily, and it is well to remember that to those who deny our sex political acumen can be answered that the political insight of the most domestic Queen who ever occupied the English Throne brought the rival party leaders together in the franchise crisis of 1884, an instance of peace with honour which the party papers are not slow to use for their own ends.

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Sentiment.

It would appear that Mr. Roosevelt left his "pink-tea manners" at home when he went to the Guildhall the other day. It is not improbable that if there were no such thing as a party system in England his speech might have been received in a way that would have suggested that it was not usual to spank one's host. But the party system caused the Opposition papers to pat Mr. Roosevelt on the back for his courage, and also to comment on the way Sir Edward Grey, the impassive, looked while the mighty hunter spoke. Whatever we might think of the Colonel's "say-so" on Egypt, it is impossible to get away from the fact that his accusation of the excess of the wrong kind of sentiment in English politics had a good deal of truth in it. We have had plenty of proof of this in the attitude that a number of politicians assumed towards certain members of our sex. Sentiment is all very well in the home circle or at festive seasons like Christmas, but no sensible man or woman wants to settle down to perennial emotional junketings. At Cairo Mr. Roosevelt said: "The most unpleasant truth is a far safer companion in the long run than the pleasantest of falsehoods." When the ex-President has gone home to put things straight in his own little village, and things in Egypt have been put right according to his prescription, perhaps our law-makers and pro-consuls will direct their attention to eliminating false sentiment from their attitude towards women.

Dear Meat.

In the East End and New Cut, and in the highly respectable suburbs, the pressure of the meat shortage, with its attendant higher prices, will be felt this week. The only people who will not feel it are the very poor, who seldom taste it, and the rich, who only know its flavour when concealed beneath the subtle additions of the chef. Since this time last year prices have gone up considerably, and whether one deals in the index numbers of the economist or the sovereigns of the commerce, it is evident that the housekeeper has to make less money go a longer way; sugar, flour, lard, bacon, and butcher's-meat have increased either 1d. or ½d. a pound. Wages have not increased in proportion; the number of the unemployed is larger than ever; machinery is doing the work while the man is looking on. The Board of Agriculture opposes the opening of the foreign animal wharves, but if, as has been suggested, one were opened at Alderney, it would be possible to give some employment to the unemployed by benefiting the trades dependent on the by-products of slaughtered animals. As things are, however, the housekeeper who is supposed not to know anything of Imperial matters, of the possibilities of importing live cattle from Denmark, Holland, and Roumania to supplement our own supplies, and presently from the Africas, has to face larger calls upon an inelastic housekeeping allowance. When she is of the middle class she does not receive any more money from her husband, who cannot see the connection between the rise in price and a possible lessening of the amount he reserves for his personal expenditure. When she is a working-man's wife she knows the problem is also left to her own solving. Women, we are told, know nothing of practical economic politics, but they have to meet the bills of those who do.

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OUR WORK.

Our Preparations. As the time for the procession draws near, the work of the League in endeavouring to ascertain the numbers which will march in the different divisions becomes increasingly difficult. In this we must depend upon our members to help us, and when they are entitled to walk in two or more divisions secure deputies for the one or more they may not take part in. Our country branches are responding well, and offers of hospitality to these when in town will be welcome. We are a democracy of women, and we have no lofty ideas on the subject of our lodging, so those who can offer accommodation of any kind will be doing good work for the cause if they send in particulars. The giving of hospitality to country members is an excellent way of getting more in touch with different aspects of the movement, and of learning the intimate point of view of other women.

Advice to Philanderers. This is the time for those of us who are very ready to talk about our lofty ideals and our great sympathy, and who at the same time let other people do the work, to reform and get into line with the workers. We want more activity amongst our members and a greater willingness to be up and doing, and take the first job that is waiting to be done, instead of declaring openly our dislikes and likes and only doing that which is most pleasant to us. No cause was ever brought to a successful issue by philanderers. Mrs. Snow is appealing for more VOTE-sellers; pitches are waiting for those who will even promise one hour a week. An hour is very little: it is easily wasted talking and trifling, with no result, whereas an hour spent at VOTE-selling is helping the cause and helping the paper.

Wanted: Motor-Cars. We want motor-cars for the procession to display THE VOTE posters and to give prominence to our paper. Anyone who can lend a motor for this purpose should write at once to the Managing Director of THE VOTE, 148, Holborn Bars. Every care will be taken of cars lent.

Mrs. Billington-Greig. Mrs. BILLINGTON-GREIG is now quite recovered from her accident, and will speak at our Kensington Town Hall meetings on the evening of the procession. We shall all be glad to welcome her once more, and listen to her sound criticism of the political situation and her inspiring eloquence on our cause and its inter-action with general politics.

The National Executive Committee. Mrs. HOW MARTYN writes: "The Committee has under consideration great changes in the organising department, details of which will be given after the next meeting. Reports given to the Committee by Miss Lawson and Mrs. Snow showed that there are still many members who are unmindful of their responsibilities in regard to their paper. The circulation and the street sales have both gone up, but are still far from what they ought to be. To remedy this shortcoming in our work, a VOTE week will be held from July 3rd to 10th, when we expect every member to do her best to get fresh subscribers for the paper; to undertake to sell a certain number of copies weekly, either to her friends

or in the street; to get sympathisers to take up at least one 5s. share; to recommend her friends to buy from the firms who advertise in the paper, and, of course, to do this effectively she must be a subscriber and a shareholder herself. The cordial co-operation of you all is asked for July 3rd to 10th. Please send offers of help to Mrs. Snow at the office."

"The Vote" "At Home." A RECEPTION was given to the readers and sellers of THE VOTE at Caxton Hall on Thursday evening, when Mrs. Despard presided. The appreciation which the paper has met with on all sides, its steady improvement in matter and make-up, and the part which it has taken in reflecting the woman's standpoint was the subject of very favourable comment, and Mrs. Despard spoke of the real affection with which she had found our organ was regarded through the country. A good number of shares in the Minerva Publishing Company were taken up after the meeting. All the speeches were brief.

Mrs. Despard in her opening address said that the paper had been called THE VOTE because they meant it to continue after the Vote was won, and endeavour to help and instruct those whose needs it had already met in practical politics—not the politics of party, but a wider politics dealing with the welfare of women and children. Speaking of the youth of the paper and its signs of vitality, she said that it had developed very much since it had started, and had grown to be a most friendly little paper, which had become a weekly necessity to many people in every part of the country. She took it on every platform with her wherever she went, and no matter how many copies she had with her, even nine or ten dozen, she had no trouble in getting rid of them. Of the street sellers, she said that it was difficult to estimate too highly the work they were doing. They were advertising the cause in the best way by keeping it continually before the public. There were very few papers which had begun in such a small way which had had such a rapid success and had earned its welcome so well.

Mrs. Thomson-Price spoke on "Rejected Contributions," and said they had far more congratulations than grumbles, in spite of the fact that they were every week faced with the difficulties of endeavouring to condense matter which ought to run to thirty-six pages into twelve. Mrs. How Martyn spoke on the business side of the paper, and stated that it was the duty of every member to take a number of shares in the Minerva Publishing Co., Ltd., which had been formed to carry on the paper with a capital of £2,000 divided into 8,000 5s. shares. She also called their attention to the fact that no paper could pay on its circulation alone, and they had to depend on the advertisements, and, consequently, it was their duty to support the advertisers and to enter for the receipts competitions. They wanted the circulation to increase and speakers to take the paper on their platforms with them everywhere. Each member should take a certain number each week to distribute or sell amongst her friends or leave in restaurants and waiting-rooms.

Miss Fennings, who with her sisters is amongst the best street sellers of THE VOTE, averaging from five to seven dozen each week, gave some hints as to how to proceed. The neighbourhood in which the seller is known she had found to be the best, as there the people who knew you, knew you were sincere in your convictions. THE VOTE bag, with the letters displayed in white, was a good advertisement, as people always looked at it. She also found it a good thing to make up one's mind to sell a certain number a week and also to sell in the same places. People got accustomed to seeing you, and if you stopped going they would think the paper was not coming out. She encouraged others to concen-

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trate on the selling—it was not the pleasantest form of propaganda, but it was one of the best. They should impress on people: "If you read THE VOTE you will know why we want the Vote." Miss Alison Neilans gave some of her experiences as a street-seller and the way to secure sales. She said the street-selling ought to be managed on the principle of picketing, and she asked that those who could would send in their names.

Mrs. Despard regretted that their managing director, Miss Marie Lawson, was unable to be present, and she said that to her and to Miss M. O. Kennedy, the acting editor, who formed the inner circle, much of the success of the paper was due.

THE NEW SUFFRAGE BILL. AN EXPLANATION.

[The Editor has much pleasure in inserting the following letter from Mr. H. N. Brailsford, on whom, as Hon. Secretary to the Conciliation Committee, much of the hard work fell, and by whose tact and untiring energy the problem of conciliation was made easier. In the following letter he aims at answering criticisms which at the present juncture we have refrained from making.]
To the Editor of THE VOTE.

MADAM,—The memorandum on the new Suffrage Bill promoted by the Conciliation Committee, from which you published some extracts in THE VOTE last week, was intended primarily for Members of Parliament. I should welcome an opportunity of giving some further explanations on points which to women are vital.

Our Bill is frankly an attempt to take the line of least resistance. The old Bill, for reasons on which I need not enlarge, is so unpopular among Liberals that no one at all familiar with the state of opinion in the House of Commons could honestly predict its early passage into law under a Liberal Government. Under a Unionist Administration the obstacle would be the relatively large number of Unionists who are opposed to Woman Suffrage in any form. The alternative solution of Adult Suffrage certainly offers no early settlement. Our basis, which meets the Liberal objection to any increase in plural voting, and satisfies Unionist Suffragists by its moderation, is a compromise which can undoubtedly be carried by a non-party vote if the Government will but grant the few days necessary. It is intended to shorten your struggle, and to give you the substance of your demand at the cost of a slight sacrifice in logical completeness. We have seen too much of the bravery and devotion of the two militant societies to doubt your willingness to continue the battle to the bitter end. But men may be pardoned for thinking that, though you are ready to suffer the last extremes in this warfare, its continuance is a dishonour from which we must rescue, not your sex, but ours.

The constituency which our Bill will enfranchise differs but little from that which yours would have put on the register. The women occupiers number over a million in the United Kingdom. Your Bill would have given votes, on your own estimate, only to about 1,250,000 women. Woman for woman, it is in the main the same individuals who will get the Vote under your Bill and under ours. The basis is democratic. The familiar statement that 82 per cent. of the women on the municipal register belong to the working-class applies to our Bill. It was sometimes inaccurately quoted as though it applied to yours. The owners and graduates who will not, as such, be enfranchised by our Bill, are, as a rule, occupiers also. In that capacity they will get the Vote. Your Bill would have given two votes to a woman doctor—one as a graduate and one as a householder. Our Bill will give her one vote.

There remains another class which our Bill omits—the lodgers. It would be a grave hardship if the younger women—the teachers, the nurses, the clerks—who have done most for the franchise were to be excluded. But it must not be supposed that because a woman lives "in lodgings" she will fail to be qualified. The lodger franchise is, in fact, almost obsolete. Any lodger who has full control of his own room, however low its rent and whatever its value, can be registered as a house-

holder. Of late years tens of thousands of men who live "in lodgings" have been recognised as householders. Revising barristers apply different tests. Some have been known to inquire whether a lodger is so far his own master that he might keep a dog. Others ask whether he has a latch-key. But vague as the line is, the tendency is now to stretch it so as to make as many householders as possible. In some constituencies there remain only ten or a dozen male "lodgers" on the register. But these must pay at least 3s. 10d. for an unfurnished room. To sum up (1) the number of women who will for the moment lose the hope of enfranchisement through the omission of the unpopular and nearly obsolete lodger qualification from our Bill is very small, and these, I may remark, would not be the poorer women; (2) most women living in lodgings could by taking a few simple precautions qualify for registration as householders.

To the women who care most about the principle of your movement the gravest objection to our Bill will seem to be that it does not sweep away at one stroke the whole sex disability of women in politics. Not even your Bill did that. It left women still excluded from Parliament. Our Bill removes the sex disability to the extent that it confers the Vote on women on the same terms as men, within the occupier class, which includes 90 per cent. of the voters of the country. The importance of the mere form of words by which this is done may be greatly exaggerated. Real equality you will not get from any partial enfranchisement, and after the passage of your Bill the brutal fact would have confronted you that six men had votes against one woman. But all the concrete and all moral gains which would have followed from your Bill will follow equally from ours. There will be in every constituency an average of about 1500 woman voters. I have faith enough in the zeal and capacity of the women of the various Suffrage organisations to believe that you will be able to organise this force, and to win by its pressure the urgent reforms which women demand. But the main consequence of any measure of enfranchisement, however partial, will be that from the mind of every growing girl will be lifted the consciousness that she belongs to a helot sex. From the mind of every growing boy will be erased the belief that he was born to enjoy a natural ascendancy. These moral consequences would never follow from the text of an Act of Parliament. They will follow from the knowledge that women in a gallant and spirited agitation have demanded the Vote, and that Parliament, by conceding the Vote, has recognised their rights as citizens.

You are, I believe, much nearer to triumph than you dare to believe. If women will continue as they are doing to concentrate on this compromise Bill, accept it as an instalment, welcome it as a substantial recognition of the justice of their claims, and demand its immediate passage into law by an idle Parliament in what would otherwise be a wasted session, you will have the Vote this year. These careful compromises among politicians, this anxious weighing of consequences, mean that for the first time Members of Parliament are in earnest. We ask of you on your side to make such an atmosphere of hope and expectation and urgent demand that no Government would dare to disappoint you.

Very faithfully yours,

H. N. BRAILSFORD.

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MISS LEILA USHER.



SUSAN B. ANTHONY.

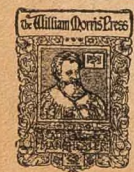
By Leila Usher.

Some historian once described the American people as a contemporaneous posterity. Even those who affect to despise the past cannot adopt the same attitude towards the future, and the views on English Suffrage of an American Suffragist, when that one is as distinguished as Miss Leila Usher, who has worked under the ægis of Susan B. Anthony, and is, moreover, a well-known sculptor, are of considerable interest.

"The most alive thing in England," is Miss Usher's description of the Suffrage movement here. "It permeates everything: everybody talks of it and seems alive to the fact that something is going on. It is the one movement in England that has something of the American hustle about it.

"Suffrage in America? The movement is different somehow. Each State is like a different country: it has its own Government. There is no doubt that women's suffrage will come, but it will be slow, and the States will have to work out their own salvation separately. The politicians in each State will give it for their own ends when some great issue, which will necessitate the letting in of a number of new voters, arises. In three States where the vote has been granted excellent laws dealing with women and children have been introduced—in America the children mean everything; and, also, laws equalising pay for men and women.

"The effect of equal pay?"
"The women become more and more disinclined to marry; they are getting the same salaries as the men, and they realise that what is enough for one is not likely to satisfy two. The result naturally is to make the man realise that he is not any longer to expect a woman to fall on his neck if he asks her to marry him. The consequence will probably be that a better class of man, with an entirely different attitude towards women, will gradually evolve. The college woman, too, who has had plenty of men friends and has no sentimental feeling toward men, does not want to marry; she wants to work. Women who don't need to work are going into the labour market now, for the fever to do something and not to sit down at home has spread everywhere, and the facilities with which they can enter professions are largely due to the efforts of Susan B. Anthony, who was the Napoleon of the American Women's Movement."



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MISS LEILA USHER AT WORK.

"You were associated with her in the Suffrage Movement?"

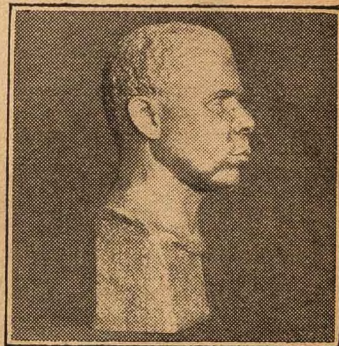
"Yes. About twenty-five years ago, when I was a very young girl, Susan B. came to La Crosse, Wisconsin, to start a Woman's Suffrage Society. She found little support; the place was full of the old conservative feeling about woman's sphere, but she founded the society, electing me president; the only other members were three old ladies, but that society to-day is one of the most flourishing in America.

"Susan B. was a hundred years ahead of her time. There were other great feminists before her, but they took side issues. Susan B. Anthony never side-tracked. At the beginning of her platform work she was saluted everywhere with missiles, particularly rotten eggs. One day someone, who had nothing else handy, pelted her with a rose. She said that she felt moved for the first time: she had withstood rotten eggs—but a rose! She lectured from the Atlantic to the Pacific, pressing everywhere the woman's claims to equality of treatment in every State, and she saw from the time she began the fruits of her labours. Colleges were opened to women; old prejudices battered down, and the learned professions accepting them as students. There is not a woman earning her living in America to-day who does not owe it to Susan B.; though she may, as the younger and the happier generation sometimes will, choose to forget it.

"Here in England," went on Miss Usher, "you are fighting something definite—you are fighting the conservative spirit of John Bull. But in America the Suffragists are fighting the political intriguers. Our best men, Abraham Lincoln and Ralph Emerson, have conceded the principle: it is only the pigmies of to-day who are afraid of granting it."

"You have found inspiration for your best work in 'sculpting' people who have done something?"

"That is so," said Miss Usher. "I can only work on people with individuality. That portrait relief of Susan B. Anthony has been much admired, and is to be found in a place of honour in many of the American Women's Colleges, and that bust of Booker T. Washington has been bought by the friends of Southern Education and presented to the Hampton Institute. Booker T. is the Moses of the black race; it was he who founded the great negro



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

By Leila Usher.

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school. He is a born diplomatist; he never says a word too little or too much, and he is one of the most fascinating subjects I have ever worked on. I have no 'colour' prejudices. I had to travel across to America to Tuskegee to get sittings, to get my impressions from him at work.

"My other work? I have done a great deal; I have made a bust of Alexander Bell, of Bell Telephone fame; of John Wesley Powell, who made the successful expedition to the Grand Canyon. I can't do anything with mediocrities, and I do my best work with genius, whether it is shown in cussedness or strength."

Miss Usher has exhibited with noteworthy success at all the great American exhibitions, and she has found eager sitters everywhere, for her gift is somewhat unique; it lies in catching the point of view of the sitter and the physical, tense expression of it. At Harvard, at the John Hopkins University, and at Radcliff her portrait relief of Francis James Child, the most notable of Harvard professors, finds an honoured place. She has been all through Southern Europe studying art, and looking, too, with the shrewd, kindly eyes of the successful American woman at the conditions of her sisters everywhere. And in London, where she has plunged into the Suffrage movement, attending the meetings of every possible society, she has found much to astonish her.

"What amazes me," said Miss Usher to her interviewer as the latter was about to depart, "is that John Bull is not afraid to fight his own flesh and blood. He did it once before some little time ago, and the Republic of America is the result. What will happen when his sisters, his cousins, and his aunts stand up against him, demanding larger opportunities? Imagination pales before the thought. John Bull has been most successful when dealing with a race inferior in physical force to himself, but in dealing with his own people when there is a great principle at stake, he is eminently unsuccessful."

M. O. KENNEDY.

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WANTED—STEWARDS.

MADAM,—We shall be obliged if you will permit us to make an appeal for help in your columns.

On June 18th there will be required an extra staff of stewards, and we want all who are willing to give their services to send in their names immediately, so that their exact duties and positions may be explained at once. We expect every section in our contingent to supply two stewards from their own members, and each Branch should do the same. The stewards should be in full charge of the section until it arrives at the Embankment and afterwards assist if necessary during the march.

We want also to appeal to all who have at any time been members of the Cyclist Corps to come and help us on the 18th. Our contingent will be large, and cyclists will be extremely valuable as stewards quite apart from their pictorial value in the actual procession. Finally, we urge every member to do her utmost to make June the 18th a mighty success by coming herself into the lines and bringing with her every friend she has.

EDITH CRAIG, HETTY COWAN, SIME SERUYA,
Stewards' Council.

The Bill or Nothing.

The Bill does not do full justice to the women. Under such a qualification large numbers of the women most desirable as Parliamentary electors would be excluded. But the Bill is a compromise, and in the circumstances it gives a good deal. It is either this Bill or nothing for a long time, and with the large measure of support for this Bill there is a good prospect that it may become law this year.—PHILIP SNOWDEN in *Christian Commonwealth*.

The death of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman doctor, has just taken place at Rock House, Hastings, at the age of ninety. To Dr. Blackwell's valiant efforts to break down prejudice is due the fact that several hundreds of women are to-day practising medicine on both sides of the Atlantic. We propose to give an appreciation of Dr. Blackwell's career in our next issue.

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SATURDAY, JUNE 11, 1910.

THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME.

The Liberal Press has hastened, with wonderful unanimity, to bless the new Woman's Suffrage Bill. All the leading Government organs have devoted leaders to it, and have pleaded, with more or less urgency, that facilities for the passing of the measure should be given with a good grace. The supporters of the Government seem, indeed, almost as anxious as we are that the question should be settled favourably and that it should be settled now.

The whole tone both of the Press and the public confirms our frequent assertion that, so far as the country goes, it is, and has been for some time, converted to the principle of Votes for Women. The backers of the Bill assure us, too, that the support of a good Parliamentary majority is practically certain. It is plain, then, even to the most prejudiced Liberal man or the most meek and acquiescent Liberal woman, that on the shoulders of the Government alone rests the responsibility for any failure to carry this measure into law.

It would certainly seem as if every loophole of escape from immediate dealing with the matters had been blocked. Every condition laid down as necessary for success has been fulfilled.

Mr. Asquith, in May, 1908, informed us that no obstacle would be put by the Government in the way of a Bill that was based on democratic principles. The Conciliation Bill, according to Mr. Philip Snowden, is heartily approved by the most democratic members of the House. It is to be introduced by Mr. Shackleton, a member of the Labour Party. The second condition insisted upon by the Prime Minister was that the women of the country must prove that they wanted the Vote. Posterity will read with incredulous eyes in the days to come of the sacrifices that were exacted from women as proofs of the earnestness of their demand. But that the proofs were forthcoming immediately in full measure, pressed down and running over, no one with the memory of the last four years fresh upon them will attempt to deny.

Everyone will admit that, even if the measure be passed as a non-party one, the Liberal Government will gain in honour, prestige, and distinction if a Bill giving even the limited amount of freedom to women that the Conciliation Bill does pass during their term of office. It is to be hoped that every good Liberal will recognise this and give honour to whom honour is due. It is the fighting section of the Suffragists who have made this not only possible, but expedient.

Inate Liberals have accused us time and time again of being financed by Tory gold, of being anti-Liberal, not anti-Government, in our policy. As a matter of fact, we know that, instead of being the enemies of the Government, we have been their best friends. We have given them the chance of a lifetime. The militant agitation was started by women who were not only women, but clever and far-sighted politicians, who recognised that, though the political machinery necessary for the passing of their reform had been built up by the quiet educative work of forty years, other measures were necessary to force that machinery into action. They knew that no reform was likely to be carried simply because it was a right and a just one or because it had a Parliamentary majority pledged to support it. They knew that pressure was necessary—pressure of agitation, insistent, persistent demand; demand made in season and out of season; demand voiced by the country in every possible way. So they set themselves deliberately to make "Votes for Women" a street-corner cry known to every man, woman, and child in the country, to bring it within the range of

practical politics, to rouse the country on the question, and make it impossible for the Government to ignore it any longer. It was not a pleasant or particularly easy thing to do, but by stupendous energy, enthusiasm, and devotion they succeeded. They faced, as pioneers of liberty have faced from time immemorial, ill-usage, abuse, scorn, contempt, and ridicule. But they were upheld by the knowledge that they were on the right track; that thus, and thus only, had liberty ever been wrested from strong and monopolising hands. They knew that those who condemned their acts of rebellion were condemning the means by which all their own existing liberties had been won.

We claim, then, that the women have done their part royally and without counting the cost to themselves. It is for the Government now to act, and the rank and file of our supporters must see to it that the Prime Minister does not escape by any convenient back door of quibble or evasion. Every condition he laid down has been met. There is ample time during the present session to give us this instalment of justice. We do not pretend for one moment that we can regard it as a complete answer to our demand, but if this opportunity be neglected we shall declare war again, and the fight will go on until victory is ours. Whatever the cost to ourselves in suffering or loss, we must fight to a finish. For this movement has ceased to be a national one; it has become an international one. We are struggling for freedom not only for ourselves and our children, but for the caste-bound victims of India, the women in the harems, the slaves in Central Africa. From all over the world messages of congratulation and encouragement come. If we fail now, and give up the fight, the cause of feminism will be put back for generations. But we shall not fail if we continue to show a determined and united front, and keep the fear of swift reprisals before the eyes of the foe.

MARION HOLMES.

CRITICISMS OF THE BILL.

The general attitude towards the Conciliation Bill on the part of the Press is that it is what it purports to be—a sound working compromise. The *Manchester Guardian*, as usual on the Woman's Question, gives the sanest and the soundest criticisms of any of the daily papers. Some cuttings from this article will be found annexed. The *Nation*, while welcoming the Bill, remarks: "Most women with a vote would lose it upon marriage, a practical indignity, which would help to keep alive the agitation for adult suffrage." The *Newcastle Daily Chronicle* pertinently says: "Once the sanctity of the Parliamentary register is violated, the rest will be easy." The *Devon and Exeter Gazette* complains:

The middle and upper classes contribute more to the taxation of the country than their fair proportion. Despite this, they are, according to the Conciliation Committee's Bill, to be still taxed and refused a vote. It is stated that 400 members of the present House of Commons are known to be favourable to Woman Suffrage, while but 70 have declared their opposition to it.

Hundreds of cuttings have been sent to us—most of which were sighs of relief at seeing a prospect of reasonable adjustment—apart from the views the women themselves might take of the matter. But as reflecting the masculine standpoint, we must be thankful for these.

If the House of Commons is left free to vote as its members think right, and if the few days needed for the passing of the Bill are granted, it will in all probability be carried in the House of Commons with something like general consent, and in those circumstances it would almost certainly not be rejected by the House of Lords. Is there any sound reason why facilities should not be given and why the members of the House of Commons should not be allowed to exercise an independent judgment? We can discover none. The question is not only ripe for solution; its solution is long overdue. And if the objection be raised that a matter of such importance should be brought forward only on the responsibility of the Government, the answer is that by granting Government time Ministers would assume as much responsibility as is required, or as is indeed possible, in regard to a strictly non-party measure. The truth is that at long last an unlooked-for opportunity has arisen of solving by general consent a question already sufficiently embittered, and destined if neglected to be fruitful of much further bitterness and trouble. Lightly to pass it by would be to assume a grave responsibility, and a generous decision would win for the Government both strength and gratitude.—*The Manchester Guardian*



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No Summer Toilette is complete without a Chiffon Coat. This fashion, which is only a few weeks old, is already so firmly rooted as to justify the above remarks. We have now in stock a very large variety of all the newest shapes in Chiffon, Silk Ninon and Lace. The garment sketched here is a typical example.

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SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow Office: 302, SAUCHIEHALL STREET, GLASGOW.
Hon. Treasurer: Mrs. JULIA WOOD.
Office Secretary: Miss KIRBY.

Telegrams: "Tactics," Glasgow. Nat. Telephone: 495 Douglas.

Scottish Professional Notes.

Will Glasgow members please read carefully my circular letter sent out with the amendments and addenda for the members' meeting on June 6th, and reply? Every Glasgow member has received one of these letters, but very few have replied.

Many Scottish members are prohibited from attending the great Procession in London on account of the long distance and the expense of the journey; but these members should all do something to ensure the success of the Procession. Remember the Scottish fund for Procession expenses, and send me donations, large or small—there is no limit in either direction—to the W.F.L., 302, Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow. A few members have already responded to my appeal, but I want every member who is neither going to London herself nor sending a deputy to help swell the Scottish fund. All donations to this fund will be acknowledged in THE VOTE for Saturday, June 25th, but members should not delay sending in their contributions.

GLASGOW EXCURSION.—Members and sympathisers intending to march in the Procession can take advantage of the excursion leaving St. Enoch's Station at 8 p.m. on Thursday, June 16th. This is a four- or eight-day trip, and allows travellers to return from St. Pancras (London) at 12 (midnight), on Monday, June 20th, or at 10 p.m. on Friday, June 24th; fare, 27s. Seats in the excursion train can be booked in advance on application to the Station Master at St. Enoch's, or to Messrs. Thomas Cook and Son, 83, Buchanan Street. Tickets can be obtained at St. Enoch's or at Messrs. Cook and Son's.

PERTH.—Three busy days have been spent calling on members and sympathisers in Perth, collecting donations towards our Scottish fund. Two very good meetings have been held, at both of which much sympathy was shown, good collections were taken, and our literature sold well.—MARGUERITE A. SIDLEY.

Edinburgh.—33, Forrest Road.

At the afternoon "At Home" on Tuesday, Miss Dundas Grant, Vice-President, took the chair, and Miss McLachlan spoke on "The Logic of the Anti-Suffragists." The attendance on this occasion was not large, but a very well-attended Branch Meeting was held on Friday evening. Miss McLachlan presided, and a discussion on the Conciliation Bill was opened by

Miss Madge Turner and Miss Jacob, B.Sc., and taken part in by several of those present. Though there was a general feeling that the Bill marks a step in advance, there was no tendency to forget that it does not concede the principle of Sex Equality.

Miss Turner then made an earnest appeal for further help in looking after the Shop, and in disposing of our weekly supply of VOTES. Several promises were obtained, but we hereby extend the appeal to those who were unable to be present on Friday. Call at the Shop and say what time you can give. The Organiser must, as far as possible, be free to do other work. We hope that every member will come and bring friends to Mrs. Billington-Greig's meetings on June 10th.

On Saturday a very good Open-air Meeting was held at Dalkeith. Miss Turner and Miss McLachlan chalked in the afternoon, and in the evening addressed an attentive and interested crowd. At the close of the meeting THE VOTE sold well.—HELEN MCLACHLAN, Assistant Secretary.

BRANCH NOTES.

Croydon.—9, Morland Avenue.

Our weekly open-air meeting was held on Saturday, June 4th, at Morland Road. Miss E. Fennings took the chair, and Miss Neilans addressed a very attentive audience. In most convincing language she impressed on her hearers the justice and reasonableness of woman's claim to political enfranchisement. A collection was taken, and a fair amount of literature sold.

By the kind invitation of Mrs. Wilkinson, a most enjoyable afternoon was spent by the members at "The Brambles," Kenley, on Saturday, June 4th, when the questions of the coming Procession and the Jumble Sale were discussed.—E. T.

Eastbourne.

The visit of the Actresses' Franchise League proved a great success. The two matinées were well attended. "Before Sunrise," by Bessie Hatton, is excellent propaganda. Miss Janette Steer recited "Woman This and Woman That" in a most convincing, earnest manner. She was equally good in her recitation of Laurence Housman's Prologue to the Pageant.

A Children's Dance, arranged by two local ladies, was most effective, each child representing the countries which already have the Vote. The idea was a very pretty one.

The Pageant was beautiful. We were very lucky in having Miss Ellen Terry to take her original part, and she of course was a great attraction. She absolutely fascinated everyone. Her niece, Miss Olive Terry, was an ideal "Justice," and Miss Cicely Hamilton was perfect as "Woman"; Mr. Talbot Hume-wood was very good as "Prejudice." We are much indebted to Miss Edith Craig, who spared no pains to make it a success. The proceeds are to be divided equally between the A.F.L., the W.F.L., and the N.U.W.S.S.—C. DILKS.

Ipswich.—160, Norwich Road.

Last week we were refreshed and inspired by a visit from our President, Mrs. Despard. We had for some time been working up meetings in Stowmarket and Felixstowe, and were rewarded by good attendances. Suffolk people are especially afraid of anything that savours of a change, so that to get some of them to come to a meeting where our cause was eloquently expounded was a triumph. "I had no idea it would be anything like that," a lady remarked after one meeting, and indeed the way Mrs. Despard held her audiences was remarkable. Mrs. Vulliamy spoke from a married woman's point of view in a way that gained sympathy and appreciation. Mr. Napier Prentice made an excellent chairman. Special thanks are due to Mrs. Milano, who helped so much in Felixstowe, and also to Mrs. Girling. In Stowmarket we had the support of members of the Ipswich and County Women's Suffrage Society, Mrs. Peacock, Miss Worthington, and Miss Prentice coming especially to our aid. For country meetings conveyances are a necessity, and Mrs. Tippet, Mrs. Hossack, and Mrs. Lane generously put their motors and trap at our disposal.

At the "At Home" on Wednesday, held in the Club House, Mrs. Despard addressed the members and gave them many encouraging words. Miss Howard had decorated the Club with a profusion of flowers, which added to the general feeling of hopefulness.

In spite of difficulties, the sale of THE VOTE is now rapidly increasing. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Lane, who is indefatigable in securing as large a sale as possible.—CONSTANCE E. ANDREWS.

Manchester (Central Branch).—9, Albert Square.

The Stockport campaign closed with a meeting at the County Restaurant on Wednesday last, but in spite of the large outdoor meetings and the great amount of work done, the number present was disappointingly small. Still, it was a sympathetic audience, and paid close attention to Miss Manning's speech on "Woman's Influence" and the great Procession. Miss Heyes was suffering from a bad throat, but made a short and eloquent appeal for members and the support of voters.

The question of further work in Stockport will be discussed at our next Branch Meeting, but it is doubtful if more can be done unless new helpers volunteer. Our untiring Secretary, Miss A. E. Hordern, will be unable for some time to give as much help as she has been doing, and unless someone takes her place, and chalks, and bills, and sells THE VOTE with her constancy, much of our work must be given up. Who will volunteer?

At the next Branch Meeting, Thursday, June 9th, it will be

proposed to discontinue the weekly meetings, substituting outdoor ones for propaganda during the summer months.

We are all looking forward with hope to the passing of the Conciliation Bill.—M. I. NEAL.

Manchester and District.—Harper Hill, Sale, Cheshire.

Manchester members will be glad to hear that a special excursion has been arranged for the night of June 17th, and it is hoped that many will take advantage of the cheap tickets to attend the Procession.

The fare for one day is 11s., return, and there are cheap extensions for two, three, and six days.

The one day excursion leaves at midnight on Friday and returns at midnight on Saturday (passengers for Stockport must leave Marylebone at 10 p.m. for the return journey); but the convenient two days' extension enables those who have to be in Manchester for business on Monday to return on Sunday evening. Further particulars can be had from the Great Central Railway and from me, and I shall be glad to know as soon as possible the names of those who wish to join the Manchester contingent.—M. E. MANNING.

Urmston.—Oaklands, Flexton.

We held a successful "At Home" on June 2nd, at which Miss Heyes and Miss Neal were the speakers. The eloquence of these ladies gained us some new members.

Last Saturday Miss Manning addressed an unruly crowd at Lorne Grove, and though there were several organised attempts to break up the meeting, Miss Manning spoke splendidly for nearly an hour. There was a good sale of literature.—MURIEL HUDSON, Hon. Secretary.

West Sussex.—Easebourne Vicarage, Midhurst.

A very interesting debate took place on Tuesday last at the Midhurst Assembly Rooms, between Miss Hicks (W.F.L.) and Miss Ward (P.S.F.). Miss Hicks proposed sex equality as the basis for the women's demand for the Vote, while Miss Ward favoured Adult Suffrage.

Both speakers delighted the audience with their eloquence and clear and logical arguments, and Miss Hicks is to be congratulated on so ably defending her position against so strong an opponent.

Mr. Plank, lately retired from the Congregational ministry at Midhurst, kindly took the chair for us. Some literature was sold, and a good collection taken.—ANNIE N. ROFF.

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

We held a meeting at the Battersea Public Library last Saturday evening. Mrs. Hicks presided, and expressed a hopeful view of the present situation in regard to Women's Suffrage. She welcomed the various new Suffrage Societies, which had recently made good headway, all of which strengthened the bond of unity among women. Miss Hicks dealt interestingly with the Conciliation Bill, and on this matter she gave a great deal of information, which was thoroughly appreciated by her audience. A good discussion followed, and Mrs. Hicks appealed to each and all present to do their utmost to bring women to walk in the Procession of June 18th. Within the next week Mrs. Crummie and Mrs. Sutcliffe are holding Drawing-room Meetings, to which all sympathisers are cordially invited.—F. A. U.

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

All the Branch Meetings during June and July will be held at Chez-Nous every Wednesday evening, at 7.30. If it is fine, we will meet in the garden; if wet, in the house. Very interesting programmes are being arranged: debates, musical evenings, speeches, a garden party; and the junior members of the Branch will be responsible for one evening. Members and your friends please all come and help to make these meetings a success. The first, held last Wednesday, was most enjoyable. Mr. Seyler read a very interesting and amusing paper, in which he described the wanderings of "Two Innocents Abroad." We all felt at the end of the meeting that Mr. and Mrs. Seyler must have had a delightful trip, but regret they were not able to obtain an interview with Mr. Asquith at Gibraltar.—M. McLEOD CLEEVE.

Brixton.—32, Wynne Road.

We held four open-air meetings last week, at all of which we had most attentive and sympathetic audiences. On Friday we held an indoor meeting at Hammerton Hall, when Mrs. Despard delivered a most inspiring speech, which was enthusiastically received, the audience breaking into cheers as she concluded.

Mr. Warre Cornish gave a most lucid account of the Woman Suffrage movement from its inception. A rousing speech from Mr. Kennedy brought the meeting to a close.

We are holding meetings next week to advertise the Procession and the Kensington Town Hall meeting.

I am urgently in need of helpers to sell THE VOTE and to take collections.—KATHLEEN TANNER.

Willesden and Maida Vale.—15, Creighton Road, Kilburn.

As our district is so large, it was decided, at our last Branch Meeting, that work would be more effectively and much more easily done if we concentrated all our efforts on Willesden and Willesden Green. Miss Baenziger very kindly promised to take care of Maida Vale, and, if possible, to affiliate with Freedom League members in St. John's Wood, and so form another branch.

Every effort is being made to make the Procession known in

this district, and with the help of Miss Munro, open-air meetings will be held daily during the coming week.

The much-talked-of Jumble Sale will take place on June 28th, so will all friends who have not yet despatched parcels kindly let Mrs. Gosling have them at 147, Buchanan Gardens, not later than the 25th instant?—LOUISE BENNETT, Hon. Secretary.

Herne Hill and Norwood.—32, Geneva Road, Brixton, S.W.

On Sunday, June 5th, a meeting was held in Brockwell Park. The speakers were Miss D. Bradfield and Miss Neilans. The chair was taken by Miss Bradfield. A very large audience listened attentively while Miss Neilans gave a brief but interesting description of the progress of the Women's Suffrage agitation.

A number of questions were asked at the close of the meeting, which were answered very ably and readily by Miss Neilans. A good collection was taken, and some literature sold, including copies of THE VOTE.—B. STENCER.

Central Branch (Open-air).

We had a most successful meeting on Sunday morning at Regent's Park. In her own inimitable style Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett held the biggest meeting we have had. The people gathered from all sides, and were induced by Mrs. Sennett's sense of humour to hear her serious appeal. We have never had such a morning of questions. Before the conclusion Mrs. Arncliffe Sennett's posters were brought out, which afforded much amusement, and altogether we spent a delightful hour and a half. Mrs. Hyde very kindly again fulfilled the duties of chairwoman. A debate is fixed for next Sunday, June 12th, at 3.30 p.m., between Miss Hicks, M.A., and a member of the Social Democratic Party. We hope all of our members living near, who can, will attend.—EVELYN DE VISMES, Hon. Meetings Secretary.

Sheffield.—32, Dover Road

On Monday we had an outdoor meeting at the Pitsmoor Tram Terminus. Although the evening was cold and inclined to rain, we had a highly creditable and interested audience to hear Mr. J. H. Bingham and Miss Clarke speak. Questions were asked at the end and a collection was taken.

Drawing-Room Meeting at St. John's Wood.

"Why Women Want the Vote" was the question splendidly dealt with at the Misses Connell's Studio, 50, Grove End Road, St. John's Wood, on Tuesday evening, May 31st, when Mrs. Nevinson, of the Women's Freedom League, spoke to an audience of 70 people.

Mr. Fenner Brockway was in the chair, and in his opening remarks pointed out how the subjection of women dated from the time when men found the necessity of banding themselves together to protect themselves against neighbouring enemies, hence the privilege of the Vote went entirely to the fighting sex. But with the advance of thought and the progress of education, we no longer place the soldier high above the thinker.

Mrs. Nevinson, introduced by the chairman, made the answer to the question of her address both educational and greatly interesting. She attacked the subject with the advantage of inside knowledge, having been for some years on the Hampstead Board of Guardians. During that time she had had constantly brought before her notice the one-sided nature of the laws of our country: women rendered absolutely unable to speak a word in matters that directly influence their business and home life, even to the care of their own children; while, on the other hand, "men who have never spent a night with a baby," gravely sit in committee and lay down laws for the upbringing of children.

A very hearty vote of thanks, proposed by the Chairman, was accorded unanimously to Mrs. Nevinson, and to the Misses Connell as hostesses of so successful and enjoyable an evening.

During the evening two recitations were given, "The Bridge of Sighs" (Thomas Hood), by Miss Rosa Bennett, and "Woman This and Woman That" (Laurence Housman), by Miss D. Stanmore Gibbs.

THE HARTLEPOOL BYE-ELECTION.

The bye-election has started in earnest this last week. On Friday last Mrs. Schofield Coates opened the campaign with a big mass meeting in Church Square. The audience was very orderly and sympathetic. After Mrs. Schofield-Coates had explained our bye-election policy and spoken on other points of interest, a number of questions were asked. She also spoke twice on Saturday, and on Saturday evening, after having a meeting for nearly two hours, the audience begged of us to go on for another half-hour.

The Committee Rooms in Church Square have caused a good deal of excitement and interest. Large crowds gather round our windows, which are gaily decorated with the colours and posters, and a good show of literature, posters, and badges.

By 7 o'clock on Saturday we were sold out of flag badges. During the evening the crowd was so great that the police had to keep moving them on. Numbers of people keep coming in and asking questions. Altogether, the campaign is going on successfully.

A good collection was taken at both meetings on Saturday. Will all members and sympathisers in or near the Hartlepool come to our Committee Rooms and help us at our open-air meetings?

Next week we start our dinner-hour meetings at the works gates.—E. CRESSY, Committee Rooms, Church Square, West Hartlepool.

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE PROCESSION.

Hon. Organiser, Miss SIME SERUYA, 1, Robert Street.

Now that the day of the great Woman's Procession is so nearly on us, all members and sympathisers who intend walking with the W.F.L., and who have not already sent in their names, are urged to do so without further loss of time. Sixteen different sections have been arranged, and tickets may now be obtained at the office by those walking in each division, which bear the number of the different sections. The sections will be arranged in the following order, and final details in regard to forming up on the Embankment will be published in next week's VOTE. All processionists are particularly asked to dress in white where possible, and to make a good show with the colours:

SECTIONS.

- 1.—Branches of W.F.L.
 - 2.—Graduates (*Organiser*: Miss M. NELSON, M.A.).
 - 3.—Internationals.
 - 4.—Nursing and Allied Professions (*Organiser*: Miss EDVINA MUNRO).
 - 5.—Pharmacists.
 - 6.—Athletes (*Organisers*: Mrs. GARRUD and Miss KELLEY).
 - 7.—Sweated Workers.
 - 8.—Cyclists.
 - 9.—Factory Workers.
 - 10.—Civil Servants.
 - 11.—Teachers.
 - 12.—Shop Assistants.
 - 13.—Picketers (*Organiser*: Miss ELSIE CHAPIN).
 - 14.—Prisoners (*Organiser*: Miss ALISON NEILANS).
- At the very end of the procession will come a section of carriages and motor-cars, in which the W.F.L. conveyances, headed by the Countess Russell, will bring up the rear with a final flourish of green, white, and gold. The Hon. Organiser is especially anxious for loans of motors to increase the strength of the W.F.L. contingent.

PRISONERS AND PICKETERS.

Those belonging to either of the above two sections are particularly reminded of the necessity for sending a deputy where they are unable themselves to be present, and in the case of the prisoners a deputy for each additional sentence received.

INTERNATIONAL SECTION.

In this section will walk Suffragists of other nationalities, and also those women who belong to lands where women are admitted to the right of citizenship. A special appeal, therefore, is made to all our Colonial sisters to show their sympathy with the woman's movement in Great Britain by walking under the International banner.

SPECIAL BANNERS FOR ATHLETES AND NURSES.

Two beautiful new banners have just been completed, which will be borne by the athletes and nurses respectively. Athletes will march under the standard of Diana, and the nurses under that of Florence Nightingale. The new banners for prisoners, picketers, and University women have already been noticed in THE VOTE.

KENSINGTON TOWN HALL MEETINGS.

We are glad to be able definitely to announce that Mrs. Billington-Greig will be able to speak at both meetings in the Kensington Town Hall. It is hoped, also, that she will be able to take her place in the procession, either by our leader, Mrs. Despard, or in the prisoners' section. The other speakers will be (Large Hall) Mrs. Despard, Miss Benett, Mrs. Holmes, and Mrs. Schofield-Coates; (Small Hall) Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.S., B.Sc., Mrs. Sproson, Mrs. Borrmann Wells, and Miss Manning, B.A. Tickets for both meetings are 2s. 6d., 1s., and 6d., for which immediate application should be made. There are also a number of free seats for women only.

HOSPITALITY AND EXCURSION FACILITIES.

Will anyone who requires hospitality but has not already sent in her name, kindly do so without delay? For those who are travelling all night, hospitality will be provided by London members for Saturday morning.

Special excursion trains have been arranged from all over the country, and members are reminded that local branches can make further arrangements if twelve people are travelling.

SPECIAL EXCURSIONS.

- BEDFORD.—Excursion, 3s. 6d.
 BIRCHINGTON, HERNE BAY, FAVERSHAM, AND WHITSTABLE.—Half-day excursion. Return fares, 3s. 6d., 3s., and 2s. 6d. respectively.
 BIRMINGHAM.—Reserved carriages on the 11.25 G.W.R. train. Fare, 7s. return.
 BOLTON AND BURY.—Manchester excursion extended. Probable fare, 12s. Start midnight, June 17th, return midnight, June 18th.
 BOURNEMOUTH.—Week-end, Friday to Tuesday.
 BRADFORD.—Excursion train leaves Exchange Station 7.25 a.m., return 10.45 p.m. Return fare, 11s. If return Sunday, 12s. 6d.; Monday, 16s.
 BRIGHTON.—Day excursion, 3s.
 BRISTOL, WESTON-SUPER-MARE, CLEVEDON, YATTON, BATH, AND CHIPPENHAM.—Day excursion. Fare from Bristol, 5s. 6d.
 CANTERBURY.—Passengers will join the Birchington train at Faversham.
 COVENTRY.—Day return, 6s., leaving 9.15. Half-day return, 4s., leaving at 12.24.
 DERBY.—Day excursion, starting 8.5 a.m. Fare, 7s. 6d. Half-day excursion, starting 1.45 p.m. Fare, 4s. 3d.
 DOVER.—Passengers will join the Birchington train at Faversham.
 DUNDEE.—Excursions are run by all railways on Thursday evenings at 32s. return.
 EDINBURGH.—Four- or eight-day excursions, leaving 9.50 p.m. June 16th, 27s. return.
 HARROGATE.—Six-day excursion, leaving 10.10 a.m., June 17th, 20s. return. Leeds train also available, but no return connection same night.
 IPSWICH.—Cheap week-end tickets are available at 7s. 3d. return.
 LIVERPOOL.—Excursion, leaving June 17th, 11.20, 11s. Two days, 12s. 6d.
 LEEDS.—Excursion train leaving on June 18th at 7.50 a.m., returning 10.45 p.m. Fare, 11s. return.
 LEICESTER.—June 18th, special train from Sheffield, calling Leicester about 1 p.m. Great Central, 3s. 9d. return.
 MANCHESTER.—Great Central excursion on June 17th, return midnight June 18th. Carriages reserved for processionists.
 NEWCASTLE.—An excursion train will be run, particulars of which will be given later.
 NORTHAMPTON.—Saturday half-day excursion, leaves 1.28. Fare, 3s. 9d. return. Reserved carriages.
 NOTTINGHAM.—Saturday half-day excursion, reserved carriages. Fare, 4s. 3d. return.
 PRESTON.—See Manchester.
 RAYLEIGH (ESSEX).—A week-end ticket, 2s. 9d. Return Sunday or Monday.
 READING.—Excursion ticket, June 18th, 2s. 10d. return.
 REDHILL.—Fare, 2s. 1d. return, for party numbering 10 or more.
 SHEFFIELD.—Half-day excursion, leaving 11.30 a.m., arriving 3 p.m., 5s. 6d. Return midnight. Great Central. Also Saturday to Monday, 16s. 5d.

At the request of the N.W.S.P.U., Mrs. Cleeves has arranged an excursion which includes not only Swansea but also Neath, Port Talbot, Bridgend, Cardiff, Newport, and Severn Tunnel Junction (for Caldicott). Fares from Cardiff and Newport 7s. return. It starts at 6.15 a.m., and returns from Paddington at midnight.

Other arrangements will be announced next week.

OTHER PROCESSION OFFICERS.

- Leader, Mrs. DESPARD.
 Leader of University Section, Mrs. HOW MARTYN, A.R.C.S., B.Sc.
 General Director, Miss EDITH CRAIG.
 Indoor Meetings, Mrs. MANSON.
 Outdoor Meetings, Miss SIME SERUYA.
 Decorations, Miss GLADYS TUCKER.
 "The Vote" Sellers, Mrs. SNOW.
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 Eastbourne and District, Mrs. DILKS.
 Portsmouth, Miss BREMNER.
 Scotland, Miss SIDLEY.
 The list of donations will be found on page 83.

WOMEN AT WORK.

[This New Series will deal with the work of successful Women Suffragists.]

MISS MARTA CUNNINGHAM.



MISS MARTA CUNNINGHAM.

Miss Marta Cunningham, a popular vocalist, whose beautiful voice is well known to the London public, has just returned from a tour in America, and brings with her the completion of a system of voice-production, which she has been evolving now for some years. Miss Cunningham is a Southerner, a native of Louisiana, and, like all Southerners, she possesses that rare gift a melodious speaking-voice. Once during a lecture tour in the North she had the courage to tell her Yankee country-

women that many of the divorces in America were due to the strident, assertive voices of the women. A badly-pitched and discordant method of speech, even when associated with a beautiful and charming person, can irritate anyone who has to listen to it constantly, almost beyond endurance, and it is Miss Cunningham's belief that this annoyance is avoidable, and that the ideal voice can be acquired by anyone. Trained as a vocalist in the Italian school, under Marchesi and many of the famous teachers of the day, and skilled in the methods of Lamperti and Manuel Garcia, she now adds to her technical vocal training a physical one founded on those systems of hygienic breathing by means of which America has given us so much new knowledge.

"The voice is naturally evolved from a sigh," Miss Cunningham informed a representative of THE VOTE, "and from that sympathetic speech follows; if a thought or an idea cannot be melodiously expressed by means of the speaking voice, it would seem impossible that it could be successfully done through the singing voice; yet there are women who aim at the latter without giving any thought to the former. The value of the persuasive speaking voice is far more realised by the women of Eastern countries than by their Western sisters. They have discovered that it is quite possible to mesmerise by the tone of the voice, and to make their hearers immediately responsive.

"My system? Well, it is based on hygienic exercises, which I have finally chosen, after a period of testing, and from constant study in the past two years in the great gymnasiums of America. These exercises teach the student how to walk and how to stand, and how to clear the lungs by proper breathing, getting a clear, true, and even tone of voice. The results are to produce a healthier physical and mental condition, which will be shown by the clear complexion, erect carriage, and improved figure. With young and growing girls I apply relaxing exercises, which obviate all strain from the larynx, and which place their voices and counteract any tendency to anæmia. I believe in the direct relation between the mind and the body and the improvement in mentality which immediately results from a sound physical condition. Where the control over the muscles of the body has been lost, you will never secure the same results from platform speaking. Fear is the great enemy of speakers and singers, and it is the result of loss of control of the muscles of the body. If you get rid of this by means of properly adjusted exercises, learn how to pitch the voice, so that it expresses the emotions of a healthy and clear mind, you will find that the battle of the platform is won. It is much easier to feel confident, and to pitch the voice properly if you

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stand straight and let the pressure of the body rest on the 'skeleton' rather than on the organs, as many speakers do. The control of the body should precede control of the voice."

Miss Cunningham is herself a fine example of her methods. Her voice is essentially pleasing, whether in conversation or in singing, and her splendid carriage and bright, clear complexion say much for a system which she practises as well as preaches. She is an ardent Suffragist, though owing to her profession she cannot become militant, and she will be remembered in connection with a remarkable incident on the occasion of the last Suffrage demonstration. A large crowd of roughs had surrounded Mrs. Pankhurst's platform in the Park, and were resolutely determined that she should not be heard, and that the cry of "Votes for Women," which was arranged to take place simultaneously, should not have effect. The trumpet had sounded, and the organised boing went on, and had almost spent itself, when a wonderful bird-like note rose and was sustained for almost a minute, clearly and without tremolo, to the astonishment of the crowd; and the author of the note, who was no other than Miss Cunningham, having secured the silence she wanted, cried out "Votes for Women," and was joined by the large crowd of sympathisers, while the roughs were still suffering from surprise. Miss Cunningham is a member of the Women's Freedom League.

101 POINTS IN FAVOUR OF WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE.

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

23.—A better organisation of women's industry is urgently needed so that their work can be carried on under better economic and hygienic conditions. This will not be possible as long as the male-worker alone is represented and has thereby the power of making laws favourable to himself but unfavourable to the woman worker.

"Efforts are being made to organise and regulate industry. Employers are getting frightened, and Labour is being consulted and cajoled. One of the ways in which legislators hope to bring about temporary peace is by what they call regulating woman's labour. . . . It may, indeed, be necessary for women to win a little bread sometimes, but it must be in strict subservience."—MRS. DESPARD.

At Queen's Gate Hall, Harrington Road (three minutes from S. Kensington Station), at 8 p.m. on Friday, 10th inst., a grand concert, organised by Miss Laura Campbell-Paterson (A.F.L.), will take place.

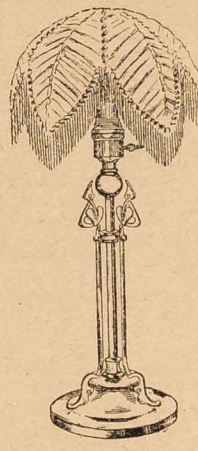
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(For Addresses see Advertisements near reading-matter and on Cover.)

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WHAT WE ARE SAYING AND DOING.

"If any man is for captivity, into captivity he goeth."—BOOK OF REVELATION, xiii. 10.

** In this column we give W.F.L. news items in tabloid form week by week.

Laurence Housman's New Book.
Miss Hicks announces that she has added Laurence Housman's new book, "Articles of Faith in the Freedom of Women" (price 6d.), to her Literature department. Everyone who has started, or thinks of starting, a suffrage book-shelf should buy it. It makes splendid reading.

Miss Matters.
Miss Muriel Matters has been giving a course of lectures in Perth, Australia, with notable success. All her friends at this side wish her luck, and plenty of it.

Motor-cars.
Anyone with new or old motor-cars who wants to do something for the cause should lend them to THE VOTE Office to display our posters on Procession-Day.

Our Advertisers.
Now is the time to look over the advertising columns of THE VOTE and see where to spend your money. Everyone will want something new for Procession Day, and she should buy it from our business supporters.

Mr. John Russell.
Mr. John Russell, who was to have spoken for us to-day on Co-Education, has been prevented owing to an outbreak of measles in his school.

Degraded Husbands.
There are married women whose husbands have the political status of the vote who are working with their children twelve and fourteen hours a day for wages of three and sixpence and four and sixpence a week, and those women drag their husbands as low as any unenfranchised coolie. Go into the homes of the poor, and you find the daughters keeping their father, and the wife keeping husband and children. Why is it? It is because women are cheap, and when women are cheap they turn men out of their employment. It is because it has been assumed that women don't count in the democracy that you can give man a political status while it is denied to women. And for this lie men are paying dear by the loss of work, manhood, and the vote.—Christian Commonwealth.

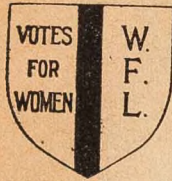
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

LONDON.



DARE TO BE FREE.

- WED., JUNE 8TH.—Battersea, Prince's Head. Mrs. Duval, Miss Kelley.
Mrs. Labrousse's Drawing-room Meeting, 64, Northampton Road, East Croydon, 4 p.m. Mrs. Manson.
Miss Baenziger's drawing-room meeting, Flat 4, 134, Portsdown Road, Maida Vale, W., 8.30. Mrs. Manson.
- THURS., JUNE 9TH.—Highbury Corner. Miss Benett, Miss Arklay, 7.30 p.m.
1, Robert Street, Adelphi, 6.45 p.m. London Branches Council.
- THURS., JUNE 9TH.—Caxton Hall, 3.30 to 6. Hostesses, Dr. Constance Long and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson. Chair, Mrs. Cunningham. Speakers, Mrs. Lovibond, "Citizens' Duty to Elementary School Children"
Rushcroft Road, Brixton, 8 p.m.
- FRI., JUNE 10TH.—Mrs. Tanner's "At Home," 32, Wynne Road, Brixton, 4.30 and 7 p.m.
Kensington Town Hall, 8. Mrs. Manson, Mrs. Despard, Mr. Kennedy.
- SAT., JUNE 11TH.—Croydon, Thornton Heath Clock, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.
Mrs. Fox Bourne's Drawing-room Meeting, Albany House, Caterham, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Miss Neilans.
Hampstead Poster Parade. Start from 7, Gainsborough Gardens, 7 p.m.
Dr. Lewin's, 25, Wimpole Street, 8 p.m. All nurses invited.
Croydon, Mrs. Phillips, "Hartley," Natal Road, Thornton Heath, 4.30 p.m. Miss A. Munro.
- SUN., JUNE 12TH.—Finsbury Park, 11.30. Miss Irene Miller.
Regent's Park, 3 p.m. Debate, Miss Hicks, M.A. (W.F.L.), Miss Kough (S.D.F.), 3.30.
Brockwell Park, 6 p.m.
Wandsworth Common, 12 noon.
Battersea Park, 3.30 p.m.
Lavender Road, 7.30.
- MON., JUNE 13TH.—Mrs. Sutcliffe's drawing-room meeting, 58, Sisters' Avenue, Clapham Common, 8 p.m.
White Horse, Brixton, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner and others.
Crystal Palace, tram terminus, 8 p.m. Miss Ethel Fennings and Mr. Reg. Bowden-Smith.
Mrs. Fennings' garden meeting, 149, Croydon Road, Anerley, 4.30 to 7 p.m. Mrs. Despard for W.F.L., and Rev. Hugh Chapman for C.L.W.S.
Miss Mitchell's, "Merok," Great North Road, Highgate, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard.
St. Paul's Avenue, Willesden Green, 8 p.m. Miss Munro.
- TUES., JUNE 14TH.—Mrs. Mockford's, 129, East Dulwich Grove, 7.30 to 9.30. Mrs. Despard.
Highbury Corner, 8 p.m. Miss Munro.
Salisbury Road, Kilburn, 6.30 p.m. Miss Munro.
Flag Staff, Hampstead Heath, 7.45 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson, Miss Hicks, M.A.
- WED., JUNE 15TH.—Garden Meeting, 7, Gainsborough Gardens, 7 p.m. Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.S., B.Sc., Chair, Miss Hicks, M.A.
South Place, Kennington, 8 p.m. Miss Maclenan, Mrs. Tanner.
Mrs. Mitchell's, Mountfield Road, Church End, Finchdey, 7.30. Mrs. Manson and Mrs. Malcolm Mitchell.
- THURS., JUNE 16TH.—Rushcroft Road, Brixton, 8 p.m.
Highbury Corner, 7.30 p.m. Speaker, Miss Neilans.
Third Avenue, Harrow Road, 8 p.m. Miss Munro.
Caxton Hall, 3.30 to 6. Hostesses, Mrs. Vulliamy, Mrs. Duval. Chair, Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.S., B.Sc., Speakers, Mrs. Holmes, "Woman's Place"; Mr. Cecil Chapman, "Marriage, Separation, and Divorce."
- FRI., JUNE 17TH.—Prince of Wales, Harrow Road, 8 p.m. Miss Munro.
- SAT., JUNE 18TH.—Kensington (Large) Town Hall, 8 p.m. Chairman, Mrs. Despard. Mrs. Billington-Greig (health permitting), Miss Benett, Mrs. Holmes, Mrs. Schofield Coates. Tickets, 5s., 2s. 6d., 1s.
Kensington (Small) Town Hall.—Chairman, Mrs. How Martyn, A.R.C.S., B.Sc. Mrs. Billington-Greig (health permitting), Mrs. Emma Sproson, Miss Manning, B.A., Mrs. Borrman Wells. Tickets, 2s. 6d., 1s.
Great Procession, Victoria Embankment, 5.30.
- SUN., JUNE 19TH.—Finsbury Park, 11.30. Mrs. Sproson.
Regent's Park, 12. Miss Anna Munro.
Brockwell Park, 6 p.m.
Wandsworth Common, 11.30.
Battersea Park, 3.30 p.m.
- MON., JUNE 20TH.—1, Robert Street, Adelphi. National Executive Committee.
1, Robert Street, 8 p.m. Miss Ethel Fennings and Mr. J. G. Kennedy.
- THURS., JUNE 23RD.—Caxton Hall, 3.30 to 6. Hostesses, Mrs. Bexfield, Mrs. Railton. Chair, Miss Benett. Speakers, Mrs. Fenwick Miller, "Women and Progress"; Dr. Drysdale, "Women and Science."
Mrs. Despard, when in London, is at the office on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings, and will be pleased to see members of the League who wish to consult her.

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

Mrs. Sproson will be in London, and available to speak on June 19th, morning and evening; 20th, evening only.

THE PROVINCES.

- THURS., JUNE 9TH.—Dewsbury, Market Place, 8 p.m. Speakers, Mrs. Sproson and Mrs. Gordon.
- FRI., JUNE 10TH.—Batley, Market Place, 8 p.m. Speakers, Mrs. Sproson and Mrs. Gordon.
- SATURDAY, JUNE 11TH.—Heckmondwike, Market Place. Speakers, Mrs. Sproson and Mrs. Gordon.
- SUN., JUNE 12TH.—Portsmouth, Southsea Common, 8 p.m.
- MON., JUNE 13TH.—Dewsbury, Market Place, 8 p.m. Speakers, Mrs. Sproson and Mrs. Gordon.
Portsmouth, Town Hall Square, 7.45 p.m.
- TUES., JUNE 14TH.—Batley, Market Place, 8 p.m. Mrs. Sproson and Mrs. Gordon.
- WED., JUNE 15TH.—Dewsbury, Town Hall, Corn Exchange, 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard.
Southsea Common, Portsmouth, 3 p.m.
Gosport, 7.45 p.m.
- THURS., JUNE 16TH.—Batley (hall announced later), 8 p.m. Mrs. Despard.
Portsmouth, Elm Grove, 7.45 p.m.
- MON., JUNE 27TH.—Sheffield, Millhouses, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speaker, Mr. R. Hawkin.
- HARTLEPOOL BYE-ELECTION.—Committee Rooms, Church Square, West Hartlepool. Mrs. Schofield Coates, Hon. Organiser, in charge.

SCOTLAND.

- Edinburgh.
- FRI., JUNE 10TH.—33, Forrest Road. "At Home," 4 to 6 p.m. Speaker, Mrs. Billington-Greig. Evening Meeting, 7.30. Speaker, Mrs. Billington-Greig.
- SAT., JUNE 11TH.—33, Forrest Road. 2.30 p.m., Quarterly Meeting of Scottish Council.
- TUES., JUNE 14TH.—33, Forrest Road. "At Home," 4 to 6 p.m.
- WED., JUNE 15TH.—Broxburn. Open-air Meeting. Speakers, Miss Madge Turner, Miss A. B. Jack.
- FRI., JUNE 17TH.—33, Forrest Road, 8 p.m., Branch Meeting.
- MON., JUNE 6TH.—Dundee. Open-air. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- TUES., JUNE 7TH.—Dundee. Open-air. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- WED., JUNE 8TH.—Dundee. Open-air. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- THURS., JUNE 9TH.—Dundee. Open-air. Miss Marguerite Sidley.
- FRI., JUNE 10TH.—Dundee. Speaker, Mrs. McPherson, Perth. Chair, Mrs. Allan.
- WED., JUNE 15TH.—Dundee. Speaker, Mrs. Geddie. Chair, Miss Anderson.
- FRI., JUNE 24TH.—Dundee. Speaker, Miss Jack, Edinburgh. Chair, Miss Clunas.

WALES.

- WED., JUNE 15TH.—Swansea. Chez-Nous, Sketty, 7.30 p.m., Music and Recitations.

BRANCH ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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

SHEFFIELD BRANCH.—Open-air Meeting, Monday, June 13th, 7.30 p.m., at Darnall (car terminus). Speaker, Miss Manning, of Manchester. Members are reminded of the opportunity of marching with "The Freedom League" in the great procession on June 18th. Names should be sent to the secretary at once.

COMPETITION FOR RECEIPTS.

The present month's competition for receipts for goods bought from our advertisers closed Saturday, June 4th. A good number of receipts was received, prize-winners on former occasions again competing.

(1) The first prize for the largest number of receipts, 10s., or two fully-paid-up shares in the Minerva Publishing Co., was awarded to Miss Dorothy Spencer, 1, Robert Street Adelphi.

(2) The second, for the largest total amount spent, 6s. 6d., or a year's subscription to THE VOTE, post free, was won by Miss Adams, Austral Club, Dover Street.

The competition will be resumed for next month, all receipts to reach this office not later than first post Saturday, July 2nd. Results announced issue dated July 9th.

"How's yer wheat?" "First rate." "Pigs doin' well?" "Fine." "That puny colt come round all right?" "He sure did." "Glad to hear things is so likely, Bill. How's your wife?"