

THE VOTE,  
JULY 7, 1916.  
ONE PENNY.

# Thinking Imperially.

MARGARET HODGE.

# THE VOTE

## THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

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FRIDAY, JULY 7, 1916.

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.

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### WOMEN IN WAR TIME.

#### Courageous Post Office Workers.

In the course of his annual statement to Parliament on July 3, the Postmaster-General referred to the courage of the women workers in face of danger. He said that 25,000 women had come forward to take the places of men serving with the Colours. Eulogising the work of women in the Post Office and Telephone Service, he said that during the Zeppelin raids they set a good example to the whole country. They played a very important part in connection with the organised scheme for giving warning of air raids, and they went on with their work even when bombs were dropping. In Dublin especially, during the recent rebellion, the women stayed at their work while bullets were flying and fires were raging. It was largely through telephonic communication that the authorities were able so speedily to secure the help of the military.

#### Women and the Land: No Fees.

The Board of Agriculture and Fisheries understand that fees are being asked for by certain agencies as a condition of offering to find employment for women on the land. The Board wish it to be clearly understood that such payments are unnecessary, in view of the arrangements made under their authority for this purpose, particulars of which can be obtained on application to the Secretary of the Board, 4, Whitehall-place, London, S.W.

#### A Nurse's War Will.

In the Probate Court, on July 3, Mr. Justice Bargrave Deane admitted to probate as a "soldier's will" a letter written by a nurse, the late Miss Ada Stanley, attached to the Territorial Force Nursing Service, and employed by the War Office on a British hospital ship. The letter, written to her

niece, directed how Miss Stanley's property should be dealt with. His lordship thought it was the first time a nurse had been classed as a "soldier" for the purpose of making a war will, "which needs no attesting witnesses."

#### Shell-makers' Achievements.

Sir George Paish, speaking at the National Economy Exhibition on July 3, referred to the fact that a woman had loaded shells better than five men. A gentleman in the audience told of his niece who came from Ireland to Woolwich to work on heavy shells. Before she had been long at work she turned out 102 shells as against 45 turned out by men.

#### Women Doctors Appointed.

Bethnal Green Borough Council has approved of the appointment of a woman doctor to act as assistant medical officer of health at a salary of £350 per annum. The two resident gynaecologists at Queen Charlotte's Hospital are now women.

#### Women Medical Students. Hospitals Relenting with Fear.

We take the following from *The Daily Telegraph* of July 1, and call attention to the fear which evidently characterises the gradual and reluctant opening to women students of the doors of our intensely conservative hospitals at a time when the cry for women doctors sounds out far and wide. Instead of flinging their doors wide open to meet the nation's need, the emergency has only impelled them to allow a few women students to enter for a partial course, with a probability of "a return to normal conditions" after the war.

A letter from the Dean of the Medical Science Faculty at King's College to *The British Medical Journal* draws attention to the fact that this college has recently thrown open the whole of its medical department to women students, and that they will be allowed to cross its threshold next October to the number of twenty. Up to the present time the



department has been open to these students only for the anatomy classes; and so King's College is now in a position to offer a complete medical education to a number of women so far as the preliminary and intermediate curricula are concerned. The next step, as Professor Halliburton says, is to secure for them the means of completing the final or clinical part of their education; in other words, to obtain for them further facilities for completing their hospital work.

At the present time, in addition to the Royal Free Hospital, both St. Mary's Hospital and St. George's Hospital have engaged in the clinical instruction of women medical students in a somewhat tentative manner. A small number were accepted at St. George's Hospital fourteen months ago. The results of the experiment have been so successful that arrangements have been made for the admission of a few more for the duration of the war. At St. Mary's Hospital a number of women students have been taken on by arrangement with the London School of Medicine for Women. It is hoped, as Professor Halliburton points out, that other London hospitals will follow the examples thus set. But for the war there is no reason to suppose that the admission of women students to the London hospitals would yet have passed the stage of discussion and argument. It was, in fact, the effect of the war in cutting off the normal supply of medical students that brought the matter into the range of practical politics.

Experience has now shown that a mixed medical school with both men and women students can be run without difficulty, or more than a brief period of awkwardness and adjustment. What will happen when the war ends seems uncertain, but in all probability a return to the normal conditions is to be anticipated, although it is, of course, possible that the mixed school will by that time have justified its continued existence.

#### Dock Workers.

One hundred women dockers have started work at Newport (Mon.).

## Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 144, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

Telegrams—"DESPARD, MUSEUM 1429, LONDON."  
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## FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.



### DARE TO BE FREE.

Friday, July 7.—HYDE PARK (near Marble Arch), 6 p.m. Miss Munro and Mrs. Whetton. CROYDON, Sewing Meeting at Office, 3 p.m.  
Saturday, July 8.—DESPARD ARMS, AFTERNOON SPORTS, 22, Harley-road, Hampstead. Friends 1s., including tea, 4 to 7 p.m.  
Sunday, July 9.—HYDE PARK, noon. Mrs. Nevinson.  
Wednesday, July 12.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 6 p.m. Mrs. French and Miss Kent.  
Thursday, July 13.—LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL MEETING. 144, High Holborn, W.C. 6 p.m.  
Tuesday, July 18.—LONDON BRANCHES COUNCIL. Sewing Meeting at Headquarters. 3 to 7 p.m.  
Wednesday, July 19.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 6 p.m. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Nevinson.  
Wednesday, July 26.—HYDE PARK (Marble Arch), 6 p.m.  
WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE SETTLEMENT, 1, Evrett-street, Nine Elms, S.W. 1d. and 3d. meals; weekdays at noon. Children's Guest House and Milk Depot for Nursing Mothers.  
THE DESPARD ARMS, 123, Hampstead Road, N.W. (five minutes' walk from Maple's). Open to all for refreshments (dinners and suppers from 6d.) and recreation. Weekdays, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Sundays, 4 to 10 p.m.

#### PROVINCES.

Wednesday, July 12.—PORTSMOUTH. Public Meeting, Suffrage Rooms, Kent-road, Southsea. Speaker: Mrs. Keeble, 3.15 p.m.  
Wednesday, July 19.—PORTSMOUTH. Work Party, 17, Lombard-street, 3-7 p.m.

N.B.—HEADQUARTERS OFFICE OUTING. The Office will be closed on Friday, July 14, at 2 p.m.

## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE ACTIVITIES.

Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party concludes the indoor work of the Women's Freedom League in London for the summer months, but the open-air campaigns will continue with increased vigour in Hyde Park, Brockwell Park, at Highbury corner, and at other street corners until the autumn. In Scotland the Clyde Campaign is now in full swing, and the Welsh Coast Campaign, which Miss Alix M. Clark is organising, with Miss Anna Munro as the principal speaker, begins next week, and will not finish until the end of September. On September 22 there will be a members' reunion in the Minerva Restaurant, at 144, High Holborn, when we hope to have Mrs. Despard with us, and most of the members of the National Executive Committee, and shortly after that date we shall begin our weekly Wednesday afternoon meetings. Early in the autumn we shall hold a public meeting to demand votes for women on equal terms with men, and in November, our Green, White, and Gold Fair will take place at the Caxton Hall. For several months past the London Branches Council has held regular fortnightly sewing meetings on Tuesdays, from 3 to 7 p.m. in our clubroom, and has a good supply of articles in readiness for this event.

We urge our members and friends not to decrease but to increase their orders for THE VOTE during the holidays. It will do their friends and acquaintances much good to read the suffragists' point of view in matters of interest to women. They could help us, too, by collecting gifts and making articles during the summer for our winter fair. We would also remind those who visit London as well as those who live in London that they will get wonderful value for their money in luncheons and teas at our Minerva Restaurant, which is an excellent headquarters for suffragists.

### The Despard Arms. 123, Hampstead-road, N.W.

"Soldiers and sailors heartily welcomed! Here's the place for us!" and in trooped a number of soldiers just arrived in the neighbourhood. They ordered the refreshments they wanted and were glad to hear of the recreation-room, open free to all customers, its piano, games, and magazines. During the nine months of its existence the Despard Arms has lived up to its ideal of providing a public-house, which is a house for the public, without stigma or reproach and of affording opportunities for recreation, as well as supplying customers with good food and non-alcoholic drinks at moderate prices. In addition to soldiers and sailors, girls in business and young men come in, play games and enjoy each other's company, finding the Despard Arms a warm and comfortable meeting-place not available elsewhere. The premises—and the generosity of a friend in making us a present of new beds and bedding—afford the possibility of providing good bedroom accommodation for women at work who cannot afford to pay more than about 3s. 6d. a week, and it is gratifying to know that the Despard Arms has been and is a real home to such women. There have been unexpected difficulties to meet: the very serious rise in the cost of food and the impossibility of making the place conspicuous after dark; Zeppelin raids, too, clear the streets!

A present and great need is a new outfit of kitchen utensils, pans of all sizes, especially large ones, large mincing machine, baking tins, large basins, large ice machine, towels, kitchen cloths, etc. Few things were new when we started, and the wear and tear has told on them!

All friends will be welcomed at the Despard Arms Sports afternoon at 22, Harley-road, Hampstead (near Swiss Cottage), on Saturday next, July 8, 4 to 7 p.m.

# Peter Robinson's SUMMER SALE

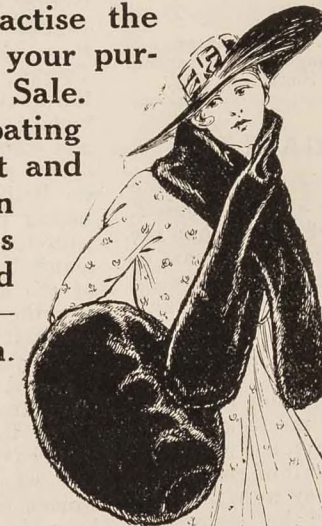
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## THE VOTE.

Proprietors:—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd.

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FRIDAY, July 7th, 1916.

NOTICE.—Letters should be addressed as follows:—  
To the Editor—on all editorial matters.  
To the Advertising Manager—on advertising.  
To the Secretary—on all other business, including Vote orders, printing, and merchandise, etc.  
Telephone: MUSEUM 1429.  
Telegrams: "DESPARD, Museum 1429, London."

### 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 RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... post free, 6/6 per annum,  
"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

### THINKING IMPERIALLY.

"Words are the counters of wise men and the coinage of fools," wrote the wise old philosopher, Hobbes, and there is no better proof of this than the ready acceptance of any shibboleth by the mass of unthinking people and the circulation of it as sterling coin of the realm. When the anti-suffrage agitation was at its height, women were accused by the enlightened leaders of that movement of being incapable of "thinking imperially," and the phrase was eagerly caught up and passed from mouth to mouth. At every anti-suffrage meeting it was quoted, and the downfall of the Empire was dolefully predicted as the inevitable result of entrusting women with political power, for they were intellectually incapable of realising either the importance or the responsibilities of an Empire. That word has an unpleasantly warlike significance, considering we are fighting militarism, which is an almost essential attribute of imperial rule. Whoever remembers the great Jubilee processions of 1887 and 1897, designed to impress the man in the street with the pomp of our power, will recollect how these demonstrations resembled a military review rather than the union of a peace-loving people, whose vast dominions were scattered over the whole face of the globe. The clash of arms, the sound of drums, the waving of flags—that constitutes the imperial ideal to the man in the street, yet all this military display is in its nature only a temporary adjunct, and not a permanent attribute, of what constitutes the true glory of the British Empire. Spenser, in his wonderful description of the house of Pryde, forestalls this ideal of Empire, which to-day so dazzles the eyes of the ordinary mortal. "This goodly building bravely garnished" is built upon a weak foundation, no mortar binds its bricks together, and

All the hinder parts, which few could spie,  
Were ruinous and old, but painted cunningly.

These weak points in the structure of the British Empire were plainly visible to the thoughtful, and the slums of London, Montreal and Cape Town form a striking comment on our imperial glories which are expatiated upon from so many "patriotic" platforms. It is the concrete symbols of Empire that appeal to the sensation lovers, the sights that dazzle and the sounds that exhilarate; it is only to the intelligent few that these are but as sounding brass and tinkling cymbals. Appeals to the eye and ear are effective for a time in arousing applause, but they cannot have other than a temporary value. The cement which binds this imperial structure together must be a sentiment deep-seated in the heart of the people, otherwise this Empire will share the fate of

all the great empires that have preceded it, and fall in ruins either from disruption from within or from attacks from without.

To the British women of our Dominions scattered all over the world one instinct is common. These, though under alien skies and in strange, new lands, have preserved in the depths of their hearts the old love of "home," and cherish a keen desire to maintain and to improve the race to which they are proud to belong. Their eyes are not fixed admiringly on the symbols of potential military and naval triumphs, but are dilated with horror at the enormous increase in the rate of infant mortality, which shows that last year more children died in infancy than there were men slain on the battlefield. The rising generation is paying a heavy price for the prospective victory of the British race. These women of the Dominions Overseas, as their suffragist sisters in these islands, have the keen foresight of the goddess Frigga, worshipped by their ancestors. They see the dread doom of this Empire not in a German victory, but in the steady degeneration in numbers and stamina of the race to which they belong.

The meeting of the second biennial Conference of the British Dominions Woman Suffrage Union, now taking place (July 5 to 7 inclusive), is a great episode even in this age, which is fraught with so many dramatic and startling events. In the midst of the most terrible war that the world has ever seen the women are sending representatives from the remotest parts of our Empire to discuss the really great and permanently important questions of the day and to prepare for the rebuilding of the social structure on a sounder and more reliable foundation. When this war-fever has passed away, how much will have been destroyed in the great cataclysm, and who will rebuild the shattered ruins? The women must be the Empire-builders—as they have been, in truth, through all the ages. They have followed in the wake of the conqueror—healing the wounds, creating order out of chaos, bringing love to banish hatred, striving to preserve the race. Their work has been purely altruistic, for they have been most unselfishly oblivious of their own personal loss in their eagerness to serve their generation and posterity. The subjects discussed at the Conference are sufficiently significant. They show how the women, with marvellous foresight, are determined to warn the unthinking opportunists, and thus to endeavour to avert the great evils which menace the human race.

Women's suffrage takes the first and last place in the discussions, for it is the crux of the whole matter. If the women have the vote in all parts of the Empire, they will be able to deal effectively with the threatening evils, possibly even to avert them. The crying injustice of the British law, which forces a woman to sacrifice her nationality on her marriage with an alien, is being discussed from the legal and the human point of view, and the terribly distressing cases of women who have suffered under this law since the outbreak of the war presented to the audience. The question of sex morality and sex education will be ably dealt with by specially competent speakers; it is a subject that this war, as all wars have done in the past, has brought specially into prominence. The dark menace of venereal disease, increased a hundred-fold under a military régime, will be treated of as a grave danger to the continuance of the race. Women and children in the industrial world is another theme which the true guardians of the race can fitly deal with; over-work and under-payment for women and children are the main causes of the degeneracy of the rising generation, and the stress of the war is forcing the little ones to sacrifice their precious early years in labour of a kind alike fatal

to physical health and mental stability. The Indian evening, July 6, devoted to a series of lectures on India delivered by leading representatives of the great religions of the Peninsula, and dealing chiefly with the present condition and future prospects of the women of India, is designed to bring all parts of the Empire into union. Perhaps in time women may teach men to care less for the glory and fame attendant on the destruction and wholesale butchery called war, and a little more for preserving the lives of the great masses of human beings who now die for want of such nurture.

The new Empire which will arise from the ruins of the old one will be a temple of industrious peace which men and women will co-operate in rearing; labour will be honoured, and the greatest happiness of the greatest number will be the prime object of the builders.

MARGARET HODGE.

### W.F.L. POLITICAL AND MILITANT DEPARTMENT.

#### REMOVAL OF THE SEX DISABILITY OR ADULT SUFFRAGE.

Now that certain suffrage societies are discussing the advisability of demanding Adult Suffrage, it is particularly necessary to reaffirm the position of the Women's Freedom League. Our demand remains the same as it has always been—the removal of sex disability. The disqualification of women is the greatest anomaly of the franchise laws; it is the only one that concerns us, and the one which we aim at abolishing. If the Government have time to deal with the franchise laws they must find time to remove this hardship on women. We strongly oppose and resent any alteration of the franchise until women are given political existence.

There is a very great danger in altering the demand for women's suffrage to one for adult suffrage as some societies are doing. We have had to fight against the demand for adult suffrage in the past because in the franchise laws the word "person" does not include women. We all know how Mr. Gladstone in 1884 threatened to drop his Franchise Bill if the amendment including women were retained. It was accordingly left out. Should an Adult Suffrage Bill be introduced at the present time we should be faced with the danger of overloading the Bill and of having the women dropped out of it. If the agitation for Adult Suffrage is supported by women suffrage societies there is a danger that it will afford the Government an opportunity to wriggle out of giving votes to women. The particular franchise men may have is not our concern; our demand is, votes on the same terms. Men who ask for Adult Suffrage are not in the same position as women who want votes; all men are potential voters, but there is a stigma on all women. We feel that after years of hard work for the removal of the sex barrier it would be suicidal to turn round and demand Adult Suffrage. We have won a tremendous amount of genuine support throughout the country for Woman Suffrage; let us keep it, and not throw it away on support for something else.

The Women's Freedom League objects very strongly to more men being enfranchised until women are on the Parliamentary Register. The Government is considering the injustice of soldiers and sailors being unable to vote. We should be sorry for men to lose their votes by reason of service to their country, but, after all, it is a comparatively small matter; after the war they will be able to return to their civilian occupations and again qualify for the vote. We earnestly demand

that when the Government sets out to remedy injustice in the electoral laws, they shall begin with the biggest injustice of all—that which excludes a whole sex from voting.

The proposal of a military and naval service qualification is in reality an extra qualification for men; it is a reward proposed for services which men only can give. Therefore the necessity of the women's point of view being brought into politics is greater than ever before. *Women must receive their political enfranchisement before any more votes are given to men.*

The following is to be issued at once in leaflet form by the Women's Freedom League:—

#### VOTES FOR WOMEN.

#### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

#### REMOVAL OF THE SEX DISABILITY OR ADULT SUFFRAGE?

*What the Women's Freedom League stands for.* The demand of the Women's Freedom League is exactly what it was before the war—votes for women on the same terms as they are or may be granted to men. The possibility of a military and naval service qualification being added to those qualifications already existing does not affect our position in the least. We stand strong and firm by our demand for the removal of the sex disability and for that only, until it has been accomplished. No special qualification that may be introduced can alter the justice of this claim.

Should an adult suffrage measure be introduced, it might happen, as has happened in other countries—for instance, in Hungary recently—that the number of men voters would be immensely increased and the women not enfranchised at all. Adult Suffrage so often means simply more votes for men, and the only way to prevent that is to ensure that some women are enfranchised before an adult suffrage measure is passed into law.

Also it must be borne in mind that in the past Conservative and Liberal women have been asked to leave their parties and join the women's suffrage societies on a basis independent of all political parties. If we were to bind the women's suffrage societies to demand adult suffrage it would be tantamount to linking ourselves to the Labour party, and it would certainly be false to many of those women who have stood by us on our independent platform.

Justice, commonsense, and honour demand that we stand loyally by our demand for Votes for Women on the same terms as they are or may be granted to men.

#### WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE,

Read THE VOTE. 144, High Holborn,  
1d. weekly. London, W.C.

#### Women's Freedom League Settlement, 1, Everett-st., Nine Elms, London, N.W.

On June 29, friends of the Women's Freedom League Settlement at Nine Elms were heartily welcomed by Mrs. Despard, who gave an account of the various activities of the Settlement, and paid a high tribute to the devoted work of the residents, Miss Holmes and Miss Cole. The scheme of the restaurant, at which vegetarian meals can be supplied at the cost of ½d. and 1d., owed its inception to Mrs. Carey, who generously paid the first year's rent and supplied the necessary culinary utensils. About 200 meals are supplied daily. The bulk of these are taken back to the homes, but recently a dining-room has been opened for the children, which suffers only from its too great popularity, as there is a daily difficulty in seating all the young people who appreciate the excellent and nourishing food



supplied. Another most important development was the guest house, to which children can be sent on the advent of a new baby, or when the mother was obliged to seek hospital treatment. Mrs. Despard drew attention to the need for this work, and to the ease of mind and improved chances of recovery which it gave the mother. A merely nominal charge is made, so that this part of the work cannot be self-supporting. The residents take entire care of these children, and have at present five in the house. Mrs. Despard referred to the devoted service of Mrs. Tippet during nearly eighteen months in establishing and extending the scheme, and to the help rendered by voluntary workers, especially mentioning the generous and willing assistance of Mrs. Delbanco. She heartily thanked Mrs. Corner and her friends for musical entertainments, past, present, and future. "It does cheer us up to see so many friends present," said Mrs. Despard, who expressed her faith that a happier future was in store for the children of to-day. Miss Holmes, in appealing for funds, for presents in kind, and, most important of all, for more workers, said that another resident worker was urgently needed, and friends who could devote an hour a week to help at dinner-time would render the very greatest assistance. She spoke of the milk depot, which supplied milk at a trifling charge to nursing mothers and delicate children. An excellent musical programme had been arranged by Mrs. Corner, whose singing, as well as that of Miss Holford, was heartily appreciated. Our sincere thanks are due to Miss Violet Clark, whose solos gave great pleasure; Miss Marjorie Gush's comic recitations afforded much amusement.

Grateful thanks to Miss Riggall for ls., roses and strawberries; Mrs. Clark, pudding-basins and cheese; Miss Sykes, rolls; Mrs. C. Harvey, Godalming, garden produce; Miss E. J. Read, Christmas cards; Mrs. Aaron, baby's chair and clothing; Mrs. Presbury, a teapot; Miss Cronin, spoons; Miss Ansell, pieces of tapestry; Miss Triplett, strawberries; Mrs. Clark and Mrs. Presbury, sandwiches for "At Home"; also to Mrs. Despard for the loan of a dozen chairs.

### OUR POINT OF VIEW.

#### A False Analogy.

The doctors and the clergy are once more at their favourite pursuit of abusing women. The Bishop of Oxford, a week or two ago, opined that we were prouder of our young men and more ashamed of our young women than before the war—in which he appears to differ from Mr. Asquith and Mr. Bottomley. The right reverend gentleman contrasts the young men serving at the Front with "girls of 12, 14 and 15," who are beyond the control of their mothers; and does not seem to have sufficient sense of proportion to see that girls of this age are not on the same level as young men of 18 and 20. The true comparison for these unruly young persons of the "flapper" variety is the boys, whose criminal and depraved tendencies are filling the children's courts and causing uneasiness throughout the land; and it is a matter for congratulation that so little of the juvenile crime, of which we hear so much, is attributable to girls!

#### The True Analogy.

So much for His Grace. The girls who compare with the young men in the Navy and Army are those who have taken on every variety of new work and new responsibility with ever-increasing capacity and steadfastness—the girls of whose courage and devotion, both in the Dublin rising and in the Zeppelin raids, the Postmaster-General speaks so highly in his report; the girls who work in dangerous explosives with never a thought of shirking; the girls who work all day long, voluntarily, in canteens and at hospital necessaries; the girls who toil ungrudgingly in the sweated trades,

to produce the Government clothing for the Government forces; the girls against whom it has never been alleged (as it has been against men) that they are slacking, that they are holding up the output through drink, or by staying away from work after the week-end holiday. With these girls the men of the fighting forces may be proud to be compared. We trust the Bishop of Oxford will apologise.

#### And Yet Again.

The Dean of St. Paul's, in interviewing Mr. Long on the subject of "race suicide," appears to share the view that women must be coerced but men persuaded. He requires that the sale of drugs for the prevention of births should be declared illegal, but in regard to that far more terrible source of abortion, the poison of disease, he is "convinced it will remain unmanageable until public opinion condemns more effectively the vices through which they are mainly diffused." No coercion or legislation here!

#### Abuse the Mother.

Dr. R. Murray Leslie keeps the ball rolling merrily. Speaking on "Child Wastage" at the National Economy Exhibition last Monday, he instanced maternal alcoholism as one of the three chief causes of infantile mortality. We would be prepared to challenge this gentleman to prove that deaths from maternal alcoholism exceeded, or equalled, the deaths caused by paternal alcoholism; and we do not believe there is any doctor in the country who does not know, however little they may like to state, the true facts of the case.

#### Progress.

The new Bishop of Peterborough, who was associated with that up-to-date centre of social effort, Bradford (where Margaret Macmillan worked!) is a suffragist. The Military Medal is to be granted to women "for bravery and devotion under fire"—the first-fruits of our long campaign for honours for women. The Press is coming round to the point of view that a registration Bill or a franchise measure that does not include women will be a political impossibility. Nurse Stanley, on active service, has been declared by one of His Majesty's judges as "a soldier on actual military service." Every step is a position gained; one only asks why could it not all have been done long ago without a fuss? We trust that all good suffragists will realize, and will not fail to emphasize, that it is not only the emergency which has brought this change of feeling. The war and its needs would have brought nothing new to women but new duties and new sorrows had it not been for the suffrage campaign and its lessons.

We hope, among other welcome changes, that we may see Mr. Justice Darling, who has given penal servitude for life to a man who indulged in the "criminal mania" of assaulting little boys, give the same penalty for the same offence in regard to little girls. All suffragists should write to him and point out this elementary duty.

### To Help "The Vote."

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged ...				410	7	9
In memory of Mrs. Snow ...	3	0	0			
Miss Branch ...		15	0			
Mrs. Baillie-Weaver ...		10	0			
Anon. ...		5	0			
Mrs. Tritton ...		5	0			
Mrs. Geiler Housley ...		2	0			
Mr. Rothe ...		1	0			
				4	18	0

As announced in our issue of June 30, we now have three amounts of £50 towards the nine required to enable us to avail ourselves of the conditional generous offer made by an anonymous friend. One £50 is included in the above total.

SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS.

THEY SUPPORT US!

### OUR OPEN COLUMN

\*\* Letters intended for publication must be written on one side of the paper only, and authenticated by the name and address of the writer. It must be clearly understood that we do not necessarily identify ourselves with the opinions expressed.

#### The Food Question.

DEAR MADAM,—The ingenuity and finesse displayed by suffragists in pre-war days disposes one to think that a few hints on some out-of-the-way schemes for money-making and also for food providing may not be amiss to your readers. Any woman with country tastes who turns to the land for a living goes in for poultry or market gardening; hackneyed alternatives! Now, poultry farming, unless one has large quantities of "scraps" from the table such as accrue in boarding-houses or hotels, or else grain at first cost as the farmer's wife has, is difficult to make pay, and it requires special knowledge. But there are only a few guinea-pig farms. Now, guinea pigs are prolific, the young begin to eat for themselves soon after birth, they are cheap to feed, their flesh is equal to rabbit flesh. Ferrets pay to breed. There is a demand for them.

Goat farming offers fine prospects. For years I have been urging my countrywomen to keep goats, and copy the wise and frugal French. The three outstanding reasons for keeping goats in preference to cows are: (1) Goats do not suffer from tuberculosis as cows do; (2) goats will eat far less daintily than cows (of 500 more plants, in fact, to be exact, than ordinary cattle will graze on); (3) goat's flesh is saleable, and the skins are valuable. This country spends £5,000,000 yearly on imported kid for glove-making. Any industry making us less dependent on other nations and on shipping is now an urgent necessity; its value cannot be over-estimated. Another point is that goat's milk can be digested by delicate babies when other foods cannot. The poor French woman cannot pay the prohibitive prices for fancy "foods" which are sold here by the ton; she rears her baby successfully with the goat she feeds in her lane.

Fish farming should be a great industry in low-lying districts. Ireland alone has more than half a million acres of inland water, well adapted for fish farming, all lying at waste! (Now, Irish members, put on your thinking caps!) With all these ponds stocked with fast-breeding fish the gain to the community would be considerable, and we should be making full use of the resources Nature has given us. The wily fishmonger, with his famine prices, could no longer plead the dangers of the deep-sea fisherman as excuse; the housewife could point with a fine smile to the pond-fed fish.

The raspberry will grow in very average soil, and does not require exceptional attention, yet it fetches a very high price, but is not much grown. An acre of ground planted with raspberries (which renew themselves annually) averages £40 profit yearly.

I am quite aware of transit difficulties, and that opposition to a thorough "canal system" all over England, which would bring down fruit prices, would be forthcoming from railway companies. Still, it is an ideal at which to aim. In other countries most fresh-water fish comes from fish farms.

I have omitted pheasant rearing, a paying industry in peace time. Though this war may draw to a close, there are indications that two other great nations may involve their people in a death struggle later on, and again I say, let us waste nothing, but as suffragists give a lead in original and fresh enterprises.—Yours, etc.,

Lyceum Club.

MARION CUNNINGHAM.

SEE OUR SALE AND

## THE BIRTHDAY FUND.

If you have forgotten to send me your contribution

DO IT NOW!

and it will still be in time for the list in next week's "Vote" and

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

E. KNIGHT.

### The Queen and South London Hospital for Women.

Her Majesty's interest in hospitals and in women doctors is well known; it was in accordance with the fitness of things that she should open the latest hospital for women and children, entirely staffed by women, on July 4, at 103, South-side, Clapham-common. The enterprise is a triumph of women's organisation; through the generosity of friends the hospital is opened free of debt, and it is expected that when patients are admitted in September sufficient funds will be in hand to carry on for one year. Women medical students in cap and gown stewarded at the opening ceremony, and the varied-coloured hoods of the women doctors added to the brilliancy of the scene. The beautiful key in steel—not gold in view of war-time—presented to Queen Mary, was a remarkably fine specimen of Miss Woodward's work. The hospital has 80 beds, and the out-patient department is carried on at Newington Causeway.

### In the Parks.

HYDE PARK, "KOSOVO DAY."—"Kosovo Day," the great national festival of Serbia, was to the fore last Sunday morning in Hyde Park, and a Serbian flag waved with the green, white, and gold of the Freedom League. Mrs. Despard, in a moving speech, heard with close attention by a large audience, told how the League desired to show sympathy with our brave Ally in her determination to make the recollection of a defeat the sure hope of future freedom. Mrs. Despard also pointed out that political freedom must be given to British women, and that their co-operation is as imperative in the national as in the family housekeeping. Mrs. Aldridge's stirring story of her six months' experience of service to the Serbians and of the great trek of seven weeks with them to the Albanian coast when the enemy invaded, but did not conquer, the country, held the keen interest of the audience, who realised that with the men and boys from fifteen to fifty away from Serbia, it is the women who are holding the country and keeping alive the flame of freedom in the hearts of the children. Miss A. A. Smith took the chair.

BROCKWELL PARK.—The first meeting of the season was held in Brockwell Park last Sunday, when an attentive audience listened with evident interest and sympathy to Mrs. Tanner's able speech dealing with the evils of child labour on the land and the sweating of women workers in munition factories and elsewhere. Mrs. Tanner pointed out how much better they manage these things in California and in Australia, where women have votes. We propose to hold these meetings on the first and third Sunday afternoons of each month, and shall be glad if members and friends will "rally up" to encourage the others.

## For IDEAL PRESENTS

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Largest selection known in the history of the world of genuine old Cameo Brooches, Rings, and Pendants from 5s. to £5 each. Also genuine fine old Intaglio Crest and Signet Rings. Most fascinating, too, are Good's original Inspiration Rings, each one an English work of art over 100 years old; prices from 6s. 6d. to 30s. each. If unable to call, kindly write for selections on approval, and a ls. beautifully illustrated booklet on "Cameos and Inspiration Jewellery" will be included free.

EDWARD GOOD, "Cameo Corner,"

1, NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.C., just facing "Vote" Office.

EXCHANGE, PAGE 1100.



FRIDAY,  
JULY 7,  
1916.

# THE VOTE

ONE  
PENNY  
WEEKLY.

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

## BRANCH NOTES

**Middlesbrough. Suffrage Centre, 231a, The Arcade, Linthorpe-rd.**

A Branch meeting was held on June 26, with Mrs. Schofield Coates in the chair. It was carried unanimously that the following resolution be sent to the Prime Minister:—

"That in view of the very important part that women have taken, are taking now, and must continue to take in the reconstruction of the life of the nation, we demand that in any further alteration of the Franchise laws the sex barrier be removed and that women be included on the same terms as men."

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were given, also reports by the delegates on the Tipperary Committee, the Middlesbrough and District Women's Council, and the Maternity Centres. The secretary also reported on a meeting called by the War Savings Committee. She stated that the conclusion arrived at unanimously at that meeting was that the Government scheme could only be effectively carried out in schools and in works, the difficulty of collecting being so great, the other societies helping by means of propaganda. The jumble sale having realised more than was expected, the Branch agreed to send part of the proceeds to Headquarters for the Birthday Fund.

### Portsmouth.

Members and friends are urged to support the public meeting on Wednesday, July 12, at 3.15 p.m., at the Suffrage Rooms, 2, Kent-road, Southsea. Mrs. S. E. Keeble has very kindly promised to speak, and Mrs. Whetton will take the chair. Donations to the Birthday Fund will be very gratefully accepted by our hon. treasurer, Mrs. Speck, 17, Duncan-road.

### Swansea.

A successful meeting was held on June 22 at Miss Kirkland's, 104, Walter-road. Miss Neal presided, and the business discussed was the work to be done by the Branch for the November Fair. Miss Phipps then gave a very interesting account of the work the League has done and is doing: Mrs. Harvey's hospital work for women and children, service at Nine Elms for babies and expectant mothers, and the national, useful work at the Despard Arms. We felt proud of belonging to the Freedom League, and Miss Phipps's

address was much appreciated. Mrs. Hutton very kindly offered the use of her drawing-room at any time we needed it for sewing meetings. It was decided to hold another meeting at Miss Kirkland's on July 19. As it will be the last meeting before the summer holidays all members are urged to make a special effort to attend and show their appreciation of Miss Kirkland's kindness. We were very pleased to see our new literature secretary, Mrs. Glover, so busy selling photos and pamphlets.

## A Kitchener Story.

"You are like Lord Kitchener. You say a thing, you mean it, and you do it," said the director of a large Egyptian hospital to the Matron, Alice Claridge, four years ago. She was the only European connected with the hospital and the Wakfs. "I am glad you have such a high opinion of Lord Kitchener," was the reply. "Your idea of him is the only way in which he can help you."

**PROCESSION AND WAR-TIME INTERCESSION SERVICE.**—The third of the Processions of Prayer and Intercession Services, "to witness for God in time of war," arranged by the Church League for Women's Suffrage, will take place on Saturday, July 8, when the Bishop of Willesden will lead the processionists and preach in Hyde Park. All intending to walk in the procession should assemble, as before, in St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar-square, not later than 2.50 p.m., and, after a short service, they will leave the church at 3.15 p.m. Men and women are wanted for the choir, for which Mr. Martin Shaw will hold a practice in St. Martin's Vestry Hall, on July 4, at 7.30 p.m. All are invited to join this procession of witness, which is timed to reach Hyde Park Corner, by way of Pall Mall and Piccadilly, at half-past four o'clock.

A notable victory has been won by the National Union of Clerks. "For the first time in the history of the profession," says THE CLERK, "we have secured that the same scale of salaries shall apply to both men and women clerks." This has reference to the demand made on the Hull Co-operative Society.

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**Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,**

Mr. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon.  
Established 35 Years.

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**STRONG, TWO-FOLD AIRING HORSE.** Price 3s. 6d., carriage forward.—Box 42, "THE VOTE" Office.

**LADY'S CYCLE,** 24in. frame, splendid condition, £3 10s. Also Humber, suit medium or tall rider, 25in. frame, nearly new, £5 10s.—GODFREY, 41, Colville-gardens, Bayswater.

### WANTED.

**LADY'S LONG NECK CHAIN,** 9-carat gold.—Box 43, "THE VOTE" Office.

**VERY STRONG DEAL TABLE,** not over 2 by 1½ft. 3s., plus delivery.—Box 44, "THE VOTE" Office.

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**L**ARGE Bed-sitting-room to Let, furnished or unfurnished, in Freedom Leaguer's flat (Alexandra Mansions). Bath, electric light. Furnished, 7s. 6d.—LEAGUER, 5, Newman's-row, Holborn.

**O**N demande une jeune dame française capable de surveiller une jeune domestique française, et tenir compagnie à la dame de la maison.—Box 37, "THE VOTE" Office.

**A**T THE STRAND IMPERIAL HOTEL, opposite Gaiety Theatre, Strand, London. Absolute Privacy, Quietude and Refinement. Ladies will find the freshest, warmest, daintiest, cosiest quarters. Sumptuous Bedroom, with h. and c. water fitted. Breakfast, Bath, Attendance and Lights, from 5s. 6d. En pension, 9s. For long stays, special terms. Finest English provisions. — MANAGERESS, 4788 Gerrard.

**FURNISHED COUNTRY COTTAGE;** 2 sitting, 3 bedrooms, kitchen, scullery. Electric light, gas cooker, water laid on. Fifteen minutes from station. Moderate rent.—MRS. HART, 27, Arthur-road, Horsham, Sussex.

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