THE VOTE, Sept. 25, 1914. ONE PENNY

MOTHERS DON'T COUNT.

THEWOIF

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. No. 257.

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FRIDAY, SEPT. 25, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

"Expecting."

Thomas Atkins has gone to the war, and the country is left with the responsibility of his wife and children—soon, alas, it may be his widow and orphans. And in many homes, it is not only the mother and the children round her all too frugally spread board of whom we have to think. In many of these homes, Mrs. Thomas is "expecting," as are hundreds of other women, the wives of men who have been thrown out of work owing to the war. Even in cases where the maternity benefit will ultimately be paid, it does not meet the needs of methor and child before the high of the latter of mother and child before the birth of the latter. Often the sole breadwinner of the family, she is now incapacitated for her daily work, though she struggles bravely with it and refuses to give it up until she is absolutely compelled. The Women's Co-operative Guild is asking for the immediate establishment of maternity centres where medical advice can be obtained, both before and after the birth of the child. It is suggested that, to meet the special circumstances of the war, free medical attendance at confinements and free food should be added. The Local Government Board has promised to pay half the costs of such establishments. More prosperous mothers would gladly take their part in helping forward such a scheme, and it may incidentally be mentioned that to provide layettes for babies whose mothers have not been able to furnish the traditional muslin-covered basket will be a form of work which will not take the bread out of other women's mouths. The establishment of such centres, when possible in conjunction with the local health authorities, is a field of effort to which voluntary workers might well be directed. Much is already being done by means of charitable agencies. Now is the opportunity for enforcing public recognition of the needs of mother and child. On the battlefields of the continent the dead lie in heaps and the rivers are choked with corpses. This is all the more reason for us to do all in our power to preserve the little lives that are being born in sorrow and suffering at home.

A Dangerous Trade.

Some very interesting figures were given at the annual meeting of The Royal Liver Friendly Society at Nottingham last week regarding the sick rate of women and the relative amount of sickness in married and single women. This Society has 310,550 members in its Health Section, of which 118,127 are women. The estimated cost of sick benefit for women per annum is about 7s. 9d. For the first eighteen months it was over 12s. per annum and the deficiency in the Women's Section is £26,000. The Men's Section has a surplus of £7,000. The most important figures were those that showed the relative sickness of married and single women. The following are the figures in a tabulated form, for sick benefit only, in purnley, Bury and Dundee:—

			Burnle	y.		
Married Single	women		421 447	Claims. 248 125	Paid in Benefits. £1,014 £352	Per cent. 74 26
			Bury			
Married	women		609	341	£1,004	70
Single	,,		939	221	£440	30
			Dunde	e.		
Married	women		752	398	£1,254	71
Single	5,]	1,007	265	£507	29

Since Burnley, Bury and Dundee are essentially factory towns, and that, in spite of poor conditions and low wages, the health of the unmarried operative is so vastly superior to that of her married sister, the above figures go far to dispose of the arguments of those who hold that industrial life is unsuitable to the physical constitution of women, and who recommend early marriages as being "what nature meant."

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THE VOTE.

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Colours—Green, White and Gold.
President—Mrs. C. DESPARD.
Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT
Hon. Organising Secretary—Miss EUNICE MURRAY.
Hon. Head of Merchandise Department—Mrs. SNOWHead of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

In the Sheltered Valley.

We look back over the history of the last eight years of the Suffrage Movement and remember the methods of barbarism, by which those in authority have endeavoured to crush out the most insistent and the most vital agitation of recent years—that of the Women's fight for political freedom. Bearing in mind the forcible feeding, the hose-playing on defenceless prisoners, the repressive and vindictive police measures employed against us, we women be excused if some of the panegyrics poured forth on the liberties enjoyed by Britons have left us tepid. In his speech last Saturday, Mr. Lloyd George told us that we have been living in a sheltered valley and that our lot has been too comfortable, too indulgent and too prosperous. It may have been the sad fate of Cabinet Ministers to live among these "enervating" surroundings. We do not find the general population of Nine Elms and Shoreditch, either men or women, suffering from too much prosperity. The hard-worked charwoman or seamstress does not complain that she is surrounded by too much luxury. Even that section of the people, in which, happily, the breadwinner is in receipt of regular wages, cannot be said to be "too comfortable." We are glad that Mr. Lloyd George sees the birth of a new patriotism "bring-ing a new outlook for all classes." We hope it ing a new outlook for all classes." will bring a new outlook towards the position of women and her claims for justice. We hope it will bring a recognition of the value of the life and work of women, and, with this new outlook, we hope that a stern determination will grow up that outrage and violence committed on the bodies of women and children shall be put down, whether these are the work of "modern Huns" or of British Hooligans.

Going a Milking.

An excellent suggestion relating to women was made in the House of Commons by Mr. C. Bathurst. In view of the depletion of the agricultural industry, owing to a large proportion of farm workers joining the colours, he asked whether the Board of Agriculture would "take steps to promote classes for giving instruction in milking to young women, and so enable them, as in other countries, to take the place of the male milkers. It is not only as feminists, with a view to making work for women, that we support this proposal We all know the radiant cleanliness of the stage dairymaid. And many of us, who know something of life in agricultural villages, are aware that she is a long way from the reality of the modern milker, who is probably a farm hand who has spent the remainder of the day in the stables or carting manure. It has been said that our milk is contaminated from the cow to the pudding. We believe that the re-instatement of Patience on her milking stool, after she has been trained in the hygiene and practice of her art, would go far to lessen the danger to which the whole community is prone by milk contamination. "The wimmen don't like milking" the men will say in districts where the work is done entirely by men. believe that it is not dislike of the work which

drove Patience into domestic service. As a farmer's daughter, she probably did not get paid at all. As a paid helper, her wages were ridicu-lously small. It will be of no avail to train lously small. dairymaids unless they can be assured of adequate

Women Doctors and the War.

Dr. Grace Giffen Dundas, the wife of the medical officer of health, has been appointed by the Ramsgate Women's Local Government Association to act as medical officer of health and school medical officer during her husband's absence on active service with the Territorials.

The above paragraph appeared in last Sunday's Observer. We have no doubt that the Women's Local Government Association would gladly take over the appointments of all the medical officers of health in the country. But, unfortunately, these appointments have not yet been delegated to Women's societies. It was, of course, the Ramsgate Town Council who appointed Dr. Grace Dundas. The work of medical women can nowhere be of more value than when employed in the direct service of the public. We hope that the impetus which has been given to their work at home, owing to the absence of their men colleagues abroad, may result in a large extension of the field of that battle which has to be waged against disease and dirt and ignorance.

Miss Louie M. Brooks, Secretary and Warden of the London School of Medicine for Women, writes to suggest that this is an excellent time for young women to begin to study medicine. She writes:-

Before the war began there was a serious shortage of qualified practitioners, owing to the enormously increasing demand for medical treatment and inspection. Under demand for medical treatment and inspection. Under ordinary circumstances the entry at the Medical Schools for men would have been a large one this October. Now, most of the young men have a call to offer their services to their country in another way. In five or six years' time there will, therefore, be a serious lack of house-physicians and house-surgeons in the hospitals and infirmaries, unless more women have in the meantime entered upon a full medical course.

There are many centres throughout the country where women can study medicine, so there is no lack of oppor-tunity to those who seek it. I am receiving daily applica tunity to those who seek it. I am receiving daily applica-tions from hospitals, etc., for the services of fully-qualified medical women, and there is no possibility of meeting the present demand. The position will be more difficult year by year, unless the capable young Englishwoman steps into

PRINCIPAL CONTENTS.

GOD (AND THE WOMEN) OUR SHIELD. MOTHERS DON'T COUNT. AT HEADQUARTERS. OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN. OUR POINT OF VIEW. Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps. BRANCH NOTES.

TO HELP THE VOTE.	£	s.	d
Mid-London Branch (per Miss Tritton) Miss Florence Wills (per Mrs. Van Raalte) Mrs. Walter Carey Profit on Lending Library (per Mrs. W. Carey) E. Urwick, Esq Miss Jessie Maxwell Mrs. Cobden Sanderson	4 2 1	5 10 0 0 0 5	
		-911	

WITH GRATEFUL THANKS.

Our kind and generous friend and member, the late Mrs. Bastian, of Hadleigh, left a legacy to Mrs. Despard. Legal formalities having now been concluded, the President has very kindly divided the proceeds and given £50 to the Women's Freedom League and £30 to the "VOTE."

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams—' Tactics, London," Telephone 6146 City.
Colours Green, White and Gold.

President—Mrs. C. DESPARD. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT
Hon. Organising Secretary—Miss EUNICE MURRAY.
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Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.

Vote Street Sales Organiser—Miss P. LEAHY.

AT HEADQUARTERS.

We hope to see a good rally of our members and friends this evening (Friday) at the Suffrage Club, York-street, St. James's, when Mr. Laurence Housman will open a discussion on 'Sinful Charity.' The chair will be taken by Miss Nina Boyle at 8 o'clock.

By kind permission of Mrs. Ronald McAllister, the first of our Wednesday afternoon Suffrage meetings will be held at 1, Mount-street, Berkeleysquare, on October 7, at 3.30. The speakers will De Mrs. Despard and Mr. Laurence Housman, and the chair will be taken by Mrs. McAllister.

On the following Wednesdays, these afternoon meetings will take place at the Suffrage Club, York-street, St. James's, and we appeal to all our eaders to support us in our determination to keep Woman Suffrage the foremost plank in our platorm. by themselves attending these meetings and y making them widely known among their friends. Admission is free, and a collection will be taken on each occasion in aid of the funds of the Women's Freedom League.

We have heard with very great regret, of the grave illness of that good Suffrage worker, Mrs. Sproson. She has latterly undergone a serious operation. We are glad to hear that she is progressing favourably, and wish her a speedy recovery.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

As there has been such a great demand for patterns of the clothes being made at the workrooms at 21, Edgwareroad, it has been arranged that paper patterns, cut in sets of three, for children aged 4, 7 and 10, will be on sale at these offices next week. The price of these patterns will be 1s. for the set.

THE "PROTECTED" SEX. CRIMINAL COURTS. -Old Bailey.

HENRY WRAY, feloniously wounding Ethel Anstead; found guilty. 12 months' hard labour.

EDITH WILLIAMS, 17, found guilty of concealing the birth of her child. A nominal sentence was passed. 2 days.

FRANK THOMAS, 30, feloniously wounding his wife, by the start of the sentences.

MARY ANN CASEY, feloniously wounding Albert Cohen penal servitude.

Penat Servitude.

RICHARD TIMS, committing incest. 3 years.

Donald Lesbin was found guilty of the murder of Alice itorey by shooting at her. He was sentenced to death.

George Philips, 35, feloniously wounding Maria Frances.

FLORENCE GEE, for committing bigamy. 3 months.
THOMAS PYLE, 52, pleaded guilty to indecently assaulting Helena and Ivy Hatherall, both being under 13 years of

CATHLEEN SCOTT, obtaining money under false pretences. nths second division.

9 months second division.

George Wallis, incest with two sisters. 15 months.
Jane and Annie Wallis, for unlawfully permitting their brother to commit incest with them. 6 months.

Before Mr. Atherley Jones.
Seham Yousry, 25, who said she was an Egyptian princess, was charged with libelling Major Conolly by saying she was his wife and that he had deserted her. The Major's chief witnesses swore to a certain photograph being that of the prisoner and a man named Kent. This

was apparently the chief evidence against her, but, after the trial, Sir Ryland Atkins stated that the anegations (made by the prosecution, not the prisoner) were taise and the photograph a taked one. The Judge said she had pursued a vendetta of hatred against the Major. He asked counsel for the defence, at one point whether he suggested "it was for the public good that the actions and benaviour—which to some extent had been admitted or an English omicer in Egypt should be noised abroad in England." "I do, my lord," replied Mr. berestord. She was recommended for deportation, and sentenced to six months, second airision. She has already been in prison three months without bail.

Mr. Atheries Jones, from the day of his elevation to the Bench, has shown himself unfit for that position. No tugner sencence has ever disgraced his record, nowever, than this, in which he openly tried to inhuence the jury in tayour of the prosecution by insisting on the "nonour" of this "British omcer," pointing out the danger of attacking this "nonour" at a time like the present. The w.F.L. will not lose signt of this case, and will take steps to can attention to what appears to be another grave miscarriage of justice.

EDITH WILLIAMS, 17, for concealing the birth of her mid. Two days. She had been on remand for some time so this sentence meant release.

JENNIE SUGARMAN, charged with keeping a brothel. Two poince omcers had kept observation on her house. There were three previous convictions for a similar onence. To the Common Sergeant's disgust he found the Criminal Law Amendment Act only enabled him to give rour

EVAN DAVIES, found guilty of the wilful murder of his wire, but insane. To be actained during His Maresty's

ALFRED SPEARPOINT, accused of an offence against an impecue woman, who kept house for him. The recorder said ne had been guilty of a crime against society. Six

ARTHUR RABY, 46, police officer, was found guilty of committeing an indecent onence on Isabena Houganison, aged 11. On August / prisoner sent child for an errand, and then took her to his room, where the onence took place. The evidence was very clear against the prisoner, who had twice been convicted of grunkenness and of indecency on the highway. Twelve months' hard labour.

CLERKENWELL.—Before Mr. Spokes.

Horace Timbrell, 42, indecency. Bound over. Carrie Edgerton, 40, soliciting. 8 months. DAISY HAWKES, 30, soliciting. 9 months.

STELLA MERTON, 32, soliciting. 6 months.

ANNIE DAVIES, 38, soliciting. 7 months.

NELLIE TERKER, 30, soliciting. 6 months.

JESSIE Cox, attempted suicide. Bound over and to be

Annie Nelson, 38, soliciting. 8 months.

Johanna Nichols, 32, was found guilty of neglecting her four children. 3 years detention in an Inebriates Home.

William Lewis, 30, charged with living in part on the earnings of prostitution and with assaulting Daisy Levy.

EDITH M. WATSON

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I remain, yours sincerely.

R. J. C. WOLSELEY

Stafford, March 16th, 1914

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS-

435, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING Co., Ltd., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.

FRIDAY September, 18th, 1914.

NOTICE.—Letters relating to editorial and business matters should be addressed to THE EDITOR and SECRETARY respectively. Applications for advertising spaces to be made to the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER. Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET. ADELPHI. W.C.

EDITORIAL.

The Editor is responsible for unsigned articles only.

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

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"THE VOTE" may be obtained through all Newsagents and at the Bookstalls of Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son.

GOD (and the Women) OUR SHIELD.

The cartoon is one of Punch's "inspirations," it so perfectly embodies the spirit of the double fight that rends the world, the strife of nations for predominance, and the struggle of the women for political and economic equality. Here we have personified the narrow faith that "God, preeminently the God of Battles, is working with us and for us; that Women, pre-eminently created for our satisfaction, must be sacrificed for us," and neither "God" nor "Women" are looked upon with the clearer, truer vision of the newly awakened sense that realises responsibility for the keeping of brother" nations, and recognises that women can and must fulfil a better part.

Though full of bitter sarcasm, picture and words are a parable. In very truth "God and the Women" are the hope of the world, the only hope, the twofold shield against annihilation—death of all that

good, that which is antagonistic to evil, wherever can be done; for not only does machinery exist and however it exists; the force that by prayer, by thought-concentration, by will-power, is being centred, for their destruction, upon the powers of darkness that rage on our unhappy battlefields-the vital element without which there can be no growth towards national brotherhood and world-wide freedom, "that power is with us as we strive for the security of the "little one," and in its strength we shall prove, once for all, that physical force, brute force—even with brains to back it—does not and cannot rule the world. Nothing is more terrible than the government of the strong by the weak, cry Treitschke and his disciple Bernhardi. We agree, the strength of wide outlook cannot be subject to the weakness of narrow vision; strong endeavour, with no limit but humanity, must not be frustrated by weak, self-centred plans.

The nations strive for space, for a place in the sun: if we are to be "strong" for "government," let us see to it that, with a single eye, we fight for space" for spiritual development, for "a place" in the sun of liberty. Fighting thus, we shall "die greatly," with "a glory that shall exceed all victories in the past." So, and only so, can we gain a lasting peace, a peace that will not kill our fighting strength, "the natural expression of the vital forces of the nation, the exact coefficient of the nation's idealism," but divert it into higher, purer channels, through which it will be poured forth, all - powerful for the regeneration of

special sense. Woman, the constructor, must re- who are the nation's best asset.

plenish the earth which man, the destructor, is robbing of its strongest and best. In her, more than ever, lies our hope for the life of the world to come. That "the pick" of the nation are being rapidly killed in large numbers must have a serious effect on the physique of the coming generation; therefore it behoves us to do all that lies in human power to keep our women strong and robust, so that their super-abundant health may, as far as possible, counteract this evil effect of war. neglect so obvious a duty would be national suicide: our women should receive all the help and care that the nation can bestow upon them.

Thus, firm in our faith, trusting in our protection, we march right on, our steadfast eyes upon the goal of our desire, and, in spite of darkness and unspeakable horror, we look hopefully for the dawn of "The Day," our day, the women's day of peace; peace to fight, to wage untiring war against disease and death, starvation and social evil; the day which will know no barrier of nationality, will see nothing save a great unity through much diversity. On that day we fix our hope and, fearless of the present, confident for the future, go forth to battle,

MATERNITY.

We have already called attention to the need for maternity centres. Miss Llewellyn Davies and the Women's Co-operative Guild, 28, Church-row, Hampstead, N.W., will be glad to send particulars to any of our readers who are interested in the establishment of such centres. This is, undoubtedly, the psycological moment for the inception of a scheme which shall render it impossible that either mothers or babies shall in future suffer from the evil results of starvation, malnutrition or

Miss Llewellyn Davies writes: -" If this war is leads to life eternal, extinction of life material.

"God" our shield! The power that makes for men of to-day, let us look to our mothers now. It already in many towns and districts by means of which work can be carried out, such as Infant Consultation Centres, but the new grant in aid for maternity and child welfare now passed by Parliament enables the Local Government Board to give 50 per cent. of all costs connected with this work to municipal and voluntary organisations. would include half salaries of all health officials connected with maternity work (health visitors, medical officers, etc.), half expenses of rent, light, heat, etc., of a maternity centre or infant consultations, half cost of drugs and treatment. The £12,000 already voted is to cover these 50 per cent. expenses for the six months ending next September. After that time the same plan will continue, when further money will be given on a 50 per cent. basis for expenses incurred during the current year. Here, then, is the nation's opportunity. Let every Public Health Committee establish such centres, where expectant mothers can receive medical advice, and through the agency of which, meals may be provided under doctors' orders and prescription, where arrangements for skilled and proper attendance in confinement may be made, and where the nursing mother and baby may again find medical advice and nourishment if need be. Let them apply for free medical attendance at confinements, free dinners and milk to the National Relief Fund, which could not spend its money better than in helping the wives of the soldiers and sailors and the wives of civil sufferers from the war, when their Women" our shield! Our existence as a turn comes to face death on the woman's lonely nation depends on them at this crisis, in a very battlefield, for to help them is to help the babies,

MOTHERS DON'T COUNT.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1914.

Outside a large hall in one of our richest cities they stood—a crowd of 400 women. Women (and pabies) of all ages and all conditions. Some with shawls thrown over their heads, some, obviously better-class women, who had made the best of themselves for this appearance—so unnecessary and so degrading—in the public eye; all waiting with an air of patient expectancy for the weekly pittance which should supplement the scanty allowance made by the Government to the wives and dependents of its soldiers and sailors.

Now and again the six foremost women would vanish and the ever-reinforced crowd move forward. went round to the front of the hall and watched the "relieved" emerge, and found that patient expectancy had given place to a sense of injustice and bitterness. That there was a scale of payment according to circumstances I did not doubt, but not one of those poor souls would believe that the young girl who doled out her allowance (in many cases a shilling!) or "sent her empty away" did not do so on her own initiative. When the young girl gave gratuitous advice or asked, what the women deemed be impertinent questions, they felt that insult had been added to injury.

To think that they had given up their men for

'I will write about it to my son in Aldershot," said an elderly woman who had come to ask relief for her grandchildren. "He will be angry; the King himself said that there was enough money to keep us. I should like to write to the King him-Such a little that you get from the Army too, and twopence for each child." A young married woman spoke tearfully. "She (the girl inside) said You pay too much rent," but I have always kept a nice little home together and I want to go on; it would be a nice thing for my husband to come back and find the home broken up. Then I asked for something for my mother—I keep my mother—and she said—she a girl with her hair down her back—'mothers don't count,' she said.'' The elderly woman took it up. "Oh, no, mothers don't count. We give them the men; we bear and rear them, and they go to fight for their country and their 'mothers don't count." And the young woman said, "I have one child and another coming, but I'll see to it that I have no more. They talk of increasing the population, and this is their encouragement—I'll have no more, there is nothing to keep them on, they give you twopence a day for a child, twopence a day won't keep a child, why, a small tin of Nestle's milk costs threepence-halfpenny; twopence a day won't keep a child.

What a triumph for our enemies! What an indictment of our provision for the families of those who are fighting our battles! What encouragement to the recruits we are demanding! Soldiers' and sailors' wives and dependents standing for hours in a public street for the sake of a few shillings-nay, often one shilling-wherewith to eke out an inadequate government allowance.

As I went home every recruiting station recalled the facts I had heard, and every khaki uniform suggested, "twopence a day won't keep a child, and "mothers don't count."

Note.—Since the above was in print Mr. Asquith has tardily recognised the rights of dependents and mothers may count on getting some allowance, the amount of which is not yet stated, if they have been dependent on the earnings of their soldier son. We hope that aged fathers may also enjoy the same consideration.—ED.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.*

Influence Plus Votes.

Since Illinois women have secured partial Suffrage, their much praised influence has not decreased but has increased mightily. Matters which voteless women had for years been vainly urging became approved by high officials, when championed by women voters.

Seven hundred women judges and clerks of election and nearly one hundred and sixty thousand women voters at the April elections, scattered through the city of Chicago, resulted in the most orderly, drunkless and fightless election of recent years. No woman was insulted. Even men's rights were respected.

Ten women police were recommended by the Mayor as soon as the Suffrage law went into effect. He wanted the young girls in dance-halls and bathing beaches safeguarded, though the dangers had been as imminent at any time for ten years back, and club women had urged the need of policewomen. We now hail the policewomen.

The Mayor of Chicago appointed two women to the Charter Convention, women on the Garbage Committee, women on the Board of Censors of Moving Pictures, and he announced that the women had changed his opinion as to the segregation of the social evil. He now believes in restriction and extermination.

The janitresses of the City Hall marched up to the paymaster and demanded the back pay, withheld from them last year. They were no more tactful or refined or coy or charming or brilliant than they had been the year before. But the first time they were disenfranchised, and this year they were voters. The innate chivalry of the officials was now so great that these "lady voters" got their back pay and an increase of two dollars and a half per month. The janitresses of the City Hall marched up to the

Women deputy assessors now interview many women as to the value of personal property, a change very pleasing to timid women living alone and dreading visits from men officials

Judge Owens, of the County Court in Cook County, has had juries of women sitting in insanity cases, where women and girls were suspected of being insane, and the relief to these distressed sisters who can tell their stories to women only, is very great.

The last grand jury in Cook County, where nearly one-half of the population of the State reside, and where probably more than one-half of the State's crime arises, probably more than one-half of the State's crime arises, made a report in August recommending that, in case of crimes against women and girls, these prosecuting witnesses be sent before a grand jury of women, in order to avoid the distress of relating to men the story of the repulsive crimes of which they were victims. Such delicate thoughtfulness for the feelings of outraged women might have occurred when women had no vote and relied alone on chivalry, but it did not.

In Madison County, of which Alton is the largest city, In Madison County, of which Alton is the largest city, many crimes against women had been so lightly treated by juries, that last winter a group of Alton's most respected social and philanthropic leaders among the women went to the trials of the new cases of outraged women. Although there were no women lawyers or court officials or women jurors, the mere presence of these noble women in the audience prevented vulgar jesting or the usual harassing inuendoes. A solemn dignity was felt in the courtroom, and the juries returned verdicts in accordance with the evidence. Several men went to the penitentiary, and helpless girlhood is that much the safer.

Many women in Illinois have been opposed to the licensed saloon and, when elections were pending involving this question, would hold prayer meetings, serve hot coffee and doughnuts to voters, urging a vote against the liquor traffic, and with little result. This last April, women did not neglect to pray, but they voted, and outlawed a total of more than one thousand saloons from dozens of small

None of our temperance reformers or philanthropic workers want to go back to the days of mere influence, for now we have more influence, and power besides.

CATHARINE WAUGH McCulloch.

Evanston, Illinois.

* Mrs. Catherine Waugh McCulloch, the writer of the Ars. Catherine Waugh McCulloch, the writer of the above article, was for many years President of the National Woman Suffrage Association; Vice-President of the Illinois Women Suffrage Association; and is a lawyer of the highest reputation. She is the mother of three fine children, and one of the most prominent and popular

WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE NATIONAL WOMEN'S SUFFRAGE NATIONAL AID CORPS. AID CORPS.

The following letter has been sent to Mr. Asquith by the Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps.

21st September, 1914.

To the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith,

10, Downing-street, S.W.

Sin,—We see with marked approval that you have conceded the points on which almost every woman's organisation has insisted since the beginning of the war—that the dependents of soldiers, reservists, territorials, and volun-teers should be paid an adequate allowance by the nation, and that such an allowance should be paid weekly and through the Post Office, and not through the medium of of charitable organisations; and that a separation allow-ance is now to be granted to the wives and dependents of

A parcel of old clothes has been received from Mrs. Eastman, Princes Mead, Nettlestone, Isle of Wight.

The Singer Sewing Machine Company, Limited, has promised to lend two machines free of charge to our workrooms; one has already been sent to 21, Edgware-

Mrs. Cobden Sanderson writes to ask whether clothing made for school children at the work depôt (21, Edgwareroad) can be advertised in The Vote and prices given so that people on Care Committees shall know where clothing suitable to give away can be obtained. In answer to the above, the Hon. Sec. of the Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps instructs us to say that estimates are being made of the value of the material and work expended on the garments, and full particulars will appear in next week's Vote.

Mrs. Marion Cunningham has very kindly promised to serve on the St. Philip's ward committee of the Borough of Finsbury in place of the General Secretary of the W.S.N.A.C.

Voluntary workers are needed to serve on the Care Committee of the Ricardo-street, Poplar, L.C.C. Schools. Readers of The Vote, who are able to serve at Poplar, or in any other district in London, should write to the Hon. Sec. of the Sub-Committee of the W.S.N.A.C., which deals with Care Committee work.—Mrs. Turner, 33, Parklane, W.

Quite a crowd of members and friends of the Women's Freedom League accepted Mrs. Ronald McAllister's invitation to a drawing-room meeting at 1, Mount-street, last week. Mrs. McAllister explained that the object of the meeting was to make more widely known the work of the Woman Suffrage National Aid Corps, organised by the Women's Freedom League. The speakers were Mrs. Despard, the President of this Corps, and Miss Lind-af-Hageby, its Honorary Treasurer.

Mrs. Despard said that women as well as men were at the present time fighting for their country. Thousands of women and children were suffering distress through the dislocation of industry caused by the war, and members of

Sin,—We see with marked approval that you have consided the points on which almost every woman's organisation has insisted since the beginning of consideration has insisted since the beginning of consideration has insisted since the beginning of considerable differences and the paid and the paid an adequate allowance by the nation, and that such an allowance should be paid and weekly and through the Post Office, and not through the meiting of charitable organisations; and that a separation allowance is now to be granted to the wives and dependents of some consideration of the country to sepress grave indignation at the treatment at first meted out to these unfortunate people is added evidence of the country.

We beg leave to draw your attention to a further matter which is causing grave concern. We note that large unitarities which is causing grave concern. We note that large unitarities are considered in the country.

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OUR SUGGESTION COLUMN.

Mrs. E. M. Ebbutt, of Thorndale, Epsom, writes to suggest that educated girls, now out of work on account of the war, might be glad to offer themselves as probationer nurses in Poor-Law infirmaries, where there has tioner nurses in Poor-Law infirmaries, where there has been for some time a shortage of nurses. Probationers are usually advertised for in the Poor-Law and Nursing papers, and educated girls are always valued, especially in the larger infirmaries. She writes:—"The nurses are well housed, well fed and also gain a training that should be of real value to them in after life, even if they do not pursue the calling. They have uniform free. The salaries are certainly small, but there are practically no expenses."



341, Gray's Inn Road, King's Cross, W.C. 'Phone. 3656 North

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L. LONDON AND SUBURBS.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 1914.



Thursday, September 24.—HIGHBURY CORNER, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Addiscombe, The Blackhouse, 7.30. Miss W. St. Clair.

St. Clair.
Friday, September 25.—CROYDON,
W.F.L. Office (32a, The Arcade, Highstreet). First afternoon meeting of the
session. 3.30. Speaker, Mrs. Tanner.
DISCUSSION MEETING at the Suffrage
Club (3, York-street, St. James's,
S.W.). Opener, Mr. Laurence Housman. Subject: "Sinful Charity."
8 p.m. Chair, Miss Nina Boyle. Admission free, discussion. Few reserved seats, 1s. Tickets from W.F.L.

Cussion. Few reserved seats, 1s. Tickets from W.F.L. Office.

Sunday, September 27.—Regent's Park, noon. Miss Nina Boyle and Miss Le Croissette. Brockwell Park, 11.30. Mrs. Tanner and Miss Spriggs. Clapham Common, 3 p.m. Mrs. Samuel and Miss St. Clair.

Monday, September 28.—Kensington, corner Lancaserroad and Blenheim-crescent, 8 p.m. Miss Rushbrooke.

Tuesday, September 29.—Tottenham, outside Gas Office, High-road, 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard and Miss Eggett.

Thursday, October 1.—Croydon. Open-air meeting, 7.30. Highbry Conrer, 8 p.m. Miss Anna Munro.

Friday, October 2.—Mid-London Branch Meeting, 1, Robert-street, 7.30 p.m. Speaker, Miss Munro. Drawnsg-room Meeting, 39, Campden Hill-road (by kind permission of Mrs. James Boyd), 4-6 p.m. Speakers, Mrs. Despard and Miss Nina Boyle.

Sunday, October 4.—Brockwell Park, 11.30. Miss Rushbrooke. Regent's Park, noon. Clapham Common, 3 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle.

Sunday, October 4.—Brockwell Park, 11.30. Miss Rushbrooke. Regent's Park, noon. Clapham Common, 3 p.m. Miss Nina Boyle.

Monday, October 5.—Kensington, corner Lancaster-road and Blenheim-crescent, 8 p.m. Miss Munro.

Tuesday, October 6.—Corner Amhurst Park and Stamford-hill, 8 p.m. Mrs. Mustard and Miss Eggett.

Wednesday, October 7.—1, Mount-street, Berkeley-square. Mrs. Ronald McAllister "At Home" to members and friends of W.F.L. Speakers: Mr. Laurence Housman and Mrs. Despard and others, 3.30 p.m.

Saturday, October 10.—Portman Rooms. Mrs. Despard's Birthday Party, 7.30. Admission free.

Sunday, October 11.—Brockwell Park, 11.30. Regent's Park. Miss Murray. Clapham Common, 3 p.m.

Miss Eunice Murray. Drawing-room Meeting, 129, East Dulwich-grove, S.E. (by kind permission of Mrs. Mockford), 3.30-5 p.m. Speaker, Miss Boyle.

Monday, October 12.—W.F.L. Office, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, W.C. Members' meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Miss Murray and Mrs. Tippett. Chair, Miss Anna Munro.

Wednesday, October 14.—Public Meeting at the Suffrage

Miss Anna Munro.

Wednesday, October 14.—Public Meeting at the Suffrage Club, 3, York Street, St. James', S.W., 3.30. The Rev. C. Baugmgarten ("War and Franchise"), and Miss Boyle. Chair, Miss Murray. Admission free.

Sunday, October 18.—Regent's Park, noon. Brockwell Park, 11.30. Mrs. Mustard and Miss Le Croisette. Clapham Common, 3 p.m. Miss Munro.

PROVINCES.

Monday, September 28.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Hinton's Café,

Monday, September 28.—MIDDLESBROUGH, Hinton's Care, 8 p.m. Business meeting.

Tuesday, September 29.—Sale, Y.M.C.A. Rooms, Schoolroad, 3.30 p.m. Branch meeting, open to sympathisers.

Manchester, 79, Piccadilly, 7.30. Branch meeting, open

to sympathisers.

Monday, October 12.—Міррыеврацен, Hinton's Café, 8 р.m. "At Home." Speaker, Mrs. Schofield Coates. Chair, Miss W. M. Jones.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Monday, October 5.—St. Albans' Debating Society. ebate: "Women's Work in Local Government v. the uffrage Agitation." To be opened by Miss Boyle on the

Sunday, October 11.—Kingston Humanitarian Socy, Fife Hall, Kingston-on-Thames. Lecture by Miss Andrews. "War—and after?" 7 p.m.

BRANCH NOTES.

Clapham.

The Clapham Branch are well content with their garden party. Our President came to us and inspired us all by her words. Our thanks are due to Mrs. Every for the loan of her beautiful garden and, under the management of Miss Winifred St. Clair, the programme of competitions and entertainments proved a great success. Miss Evie Hope, though a non-member, gave her professional services, and her piano entertainment was a real delight. Miss Nielson and Miss Crease also kindly gave their services. After sunset, Chinese lanterns combined with the hunters' moon formed a charming setting for the remainder of the programme. The part of Lady Teazle was delightfully taken by Miss St. Clair, who played with the true eighteenth century touch. Mr. Laube, in the character of St. Peter, is also to be congratulated. The same lady and gentleman were greatly appreciated in

a humourous little farce. As the evening became cooler, the younger folk danced, and everyone returned home after a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

after a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Croydon.

Open-air meetings re-commence this week, as well as our Friday afternoon meetings. Branch members represent our League and the Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps on the Mayor's Committee, the School Canteen Committee and the Mothers' Dining-room Committee. Collecting cards are now ready, so that members may get in money to start the special work that the Branch hopes to do during this autumn and winter.

to do during this autumn and winter.

East London

A Branch Meeting was held on Thursday, September 10th. It was decided to discontinue the Branch Meetings for the present, and that all members should be urged to attend the general meeting at Headquarters on the second Monday in each month. All who are able are asked to continue to buy the Vote and to double the weekly levy, which should be paid to Miss Smith at those meetings or sent to her at her address: 1, Northbrook Road, Lea, S.E. Members intending to join the Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps should send their names and registration fee direct to the General Secretary.

Grantham.

fee direct to the General Secretary.

Grantham.

On Thursday, September 17, a very successful drawingroom meeting was given by Mrs. Stephens, at 141, Dudleyroad. Miss Wallis, of Nottingham, was in the chair, and
the speakers were Miss Goddard and Mrs. Rawle. The
latter, who has been in the Movement for many years,
spoke of the formation of the Women's Freedom League
and the methods adopted in the early days. Miss Goddard emphasised the need of women in politics, and showed
how the brutalities practised on women in the present
war are the outcome of the subjection and submission
forced upon women in centuries past. An interesting
discussion took place at the close of the meeting. Six
more members were enrolled, and several present agreed more members were enrolled, and several present agreed o take our paper regularly. Ipswich

The winter meetings began with a hard up supper on September 17. A fair number of members were present, and a very pleasant evening was spent. It is hoped that members will try and attend the weekly meetings as regularly as possible.

Manchester

Manchester
A meeting of the W.S.N.A.C. was held on Tuesday evening, September 15. Miss Janet Heyes presided. Miss Andrews reported on the deputation to the Secretary of the Distress Relief Committee, and Mrs. Dean, Mrs. Dent and Mrs. James gave vivid accounts of cases they had visited as members of the Longsight Distress Committee. Whilst the work of the Corps was being discussed, members were busily at work making and getting out garments for destitute children. Material will be thankfully received, and should be sent to Miss Platt, 79, Piccadilly.

A meeting of the W.S.N.A.C. was held on Tuesday afternoon, September 15. Mrs. Rutter presided. It was arranged to co-operate with the Civic League of Help, and, if possible, to get representation on that body. Mrs. Nidd contributed a large bundle of material for the making up of children's garments, and reported that she was serving on the Belgian Relief Committee. Our thanks are due to Miss Elliott, who has been working in Manchester and Sale for a fortnight of her holiday with unremitting energy. We gratefully acknowledge the sum of £1 from Mrs. Philip Johnston as a contribution to our N.A.C. Fund.

Middlesborough.

Middlesborough.

A Branch meeting was held last Monday night in Hinton's Caté. Mrs. Walker gave a report of the first meeting of the representatives of Women's organisations in the town, of which she had been appointed secretary. Miss James reported that she had attended a meeting of the Ladies' Committee, at which the Mayoress presided, and that the shirts and socks distributed by this Committee were made by voluntary workers. Miss James was asked to put forward the point of view of the W.S.N.A.C. at the next meeting, and to strongly oppose this work being done voluntarily when so many women were in need of employment. The scheme of starting a feeding depôt in one of the poorer parts of the town was discussed, but was left over for further consideration. Mrs. Despard's scheme for providing suitable clothing for school children appealed to all present as a very practicable and useful work. An "At Home" will be held on Monday, Oct. 12, at 8 p.m., in Hinton's Café, at which Mrs. Schofield Coates will speak, and members are asked to bring a useful garment or contribution for the W.S.N.A.C. Children's Clothing Fund.

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

The Social Committee, to whom was committed the task of organising a winter carnival, for the purpose of giving pleasure to our members and of raising more money for headquarters, have decided that in view of the present trouble, it will be wise, while making the effort, never more wanted than now, to add to her funds, to minimise expense as much as possible.

They therefore propose, on a date to be announced, to hold a Christmas presents sale and a

little entertainment at these offices.

Members are earnestly requested to send us at least one article for sale, and not to buy their Christmas presents until they have seen what we shall have to show.

They ask for toys, games, dolls, children's garments, books, diaries, fancy articles and houselinen. Curios which members may wish to give for the cause will be heartily welcomed. Above all C. Despard. J. E. Snow. we desire a great variety.

MISS JANETTE STEER announces lectures to be held during the run of "The Sphinx" at the Royal Court Theatre commencing October 3. On Tuesday, October 6, at 3 p.m., Miss Steer will speak on "The Femininity of Life"; chair: Miss A. Abadam. Friday, October 9, at 3 p.m., Mrs. Flora Annie Steel's subject will be "The Fruit of the Tree"; and Mrs. Frances Swiney's "The Divine Motherhood and Her Children"; chair: Lady Isobel Margesson. Admission free. Reserved stalls 2/6. Doors open at 2.30. For women only. Tickets may be obtained from the Box Office. 'Phone: 848 Gerrard.

Miss Abadam will take the chair at the lecture to be held at the Royal Court Theatre, October 6, at 3 o'clock, in connection with the feminist drama entitled "The Sphinx." She will speak on "War and Women." Admission free. Reserved stalls, 2s. 6d. Tickets can be obtained from the theatre box office. 'Phone: 848 Gerr.

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SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

WE accept Announcements of Suffrage and kindred Meetings for this Column at the rate per single insertion of 2s for 24 words, Id. every additional word; four insertions at the price of three. All Announcements must be Prepaid, and, to ensure insertion, copy should reach the ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, VOTE Office, 2, Robert-st., Adelphi, London, by the First Post on Monday Morning.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

For insertion in the next week's issue copy must be sent in by Monday morning to THE ADVERTISEMENT MANAGER, 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C. CHARGES:

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Rooms, Holiday Homes, &c.

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M ILLINERY and FANCY BUSI-NESS for Sale, or Partnership arranged. High-class trade.—Miss Bradley, 8 and 10, Holbein Place, Sloane Square, S.W.

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BOOKS.

"IF IT WERE TRUE." Explaining Spiritual Meaning of Women's Militancy. Obtainable, 7s. 6d. per 1,000, 10d. per 100 leaflets, from M.W.V.S., 26, Grand Parade, Brighton.

64 -PAGE BOOK ABOUT HERBS AND HOW TO USE THEM, free Send for one.—TRIMNELL, The Herbalist, 144, Richmond-road, Cardiff. Estab. 1879.