

# THE VOTE

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

VOL. III. No. 56.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1910.

ONE PENNY.

## NOTICE.

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

Offices: 148, HOLBORN BARS, E.C.  
Telephone: HOLBORN 6191.

Published by W. Speaight & Sons, 98 & 99, Fetter-lane, E.C.

## EDITORIAL.

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

## SUBSCRIPTION RATES.

United Kingdom ... 6/6 per annum, post free.  
Foreign Countries ... 8/8 " " "

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

## WHAT WE THINK.

### The Dying Parliament.

As we go to press we learn that Parliament has been adjourned till Friday. Mr. Keir Hardie's motion asking for "two hours one evening this week prior to Friday" to press for facilities for our Bill has been postponed. Our appeal is made, as our good friend Lord Lytton told us, to a dying Parliament; but dying men have been known to make excellent testaments, and we see no reason why the same should not hold good of Parliaments. Mr. Masterman, speaking at Stratford on Monday night, quoted Abraham Lincoln's fine words that a Government could not exist permanently half-slave and half-free. But neither can a nation. And this same Lincoln said: "I go for all sharing the privileges of government who assist in bearing its burdens, by no means excluding women."

If the General Election comes on without a definite promise of time for *this* Bill—the only Bill which has any chance of passing into law—the Government is not unlikely to "feel the draught," and feel it keenly. They will have the organised workers of the great militant societies—their political machinery far better organised than that of either of the Parties—concentrating on the Government's weakest spots; they will have heckling Suffragists in every constituency with a sound political knowledge, and a list of those who voted for the Bill to go to Grand Committee, and of those who voted against it; they will find the Men's League out actively against a Government which refused to give two days of its vacation to settle a national grievance; they will find the mother of the Suffrage societies, the National Union, running special Suffrage candidates in weak Liberal constituencies; they will discover that the Welsh Liberal women—great sign of the times!—have at last, out of patience with the shuffling of that national institution, Mr. Lloyd George, gone on strike, and that that strike has spread into other constituencies; they will realise that the women will no longer be eager to act as decoy-ducks in luring unwilling men to vote for a candidate whom they don't want. In this breathing-space "before the fun begins," Mr.

Asquith has yet time to make us an assurance of facilities in the New Year.

### Working Women and Divorce.

Before the appearance of Miss Margaret Llewellyn Davies at the Divorce Commission the opinions of the wives of working men who are to be most seriously affected by any cheapening of divorce was not clearly voiced. From them as from more favoured sections of the community comes the same cry for justice and equality. Miss Davies recalled the fact that at the annual congress of the Women's Co-operative Guild at Oxford held in July, out of an attendance of 680 working women delegates from all parts of England, representing societies with 24,000 members, a resolution demanding that the grounds of divorce for men and women be equalised and that the proceedings be cheapened was passed by "a forest of hands immediately and silently." The desire for reform did not, she declared emphatically, proceed from any light wish for a life of pleasure, but from the fact that these women looked upon it as a much-needed method of release in cases where the marriage tie involves a life of degradation and suffering, most often to women and children. The women workers were also of opinion that women should serve on the juries, and that if special inquiry officers were appointed it was essential that women as well as men should be the officers. Speaking of the real sanctity of marriage, Miss Davies said, "And it ought to be recognised that marriage is made for man and not man for marriage."

### News for John Burns.

At the meeting of the employees of the Royal Gunpowder Factory, held at Waltham Abbey, one speaker declared it was an absolute disgrace for any Government or body of employers to pay their employees 23s. 6d. weekly. They demanded 30s. The president of the Government Workers' Federation supplemented this grievance by pointing out that one of the results of it was that the men's wives have to go out to work. Now, we note that recently it was disclosed that the same Government which paid men the disgracefully low wages of 23s. is paying women 2s. 7d. a week at Woolwich Arsenal for work that is equally long and arduous. The men with a grievance have the means of getting their wages raised by the questioning of Labour members in the House. The unrepresented women, however, must go on the rates if they cannot manage to exist on their 2s. 7d.

### American Suffragists.

While refraining from comment on the disappearance of Mr. Roosevelt from public life, it is interesting to note that at the recent American elections the League of Self-supporting Women—a non-partisan Suffrage organisation—took their stand at an early hour at the various polling-booths to challenge voters whom they believe were exercising the franchise illegally. Some of these ladies working in the Tammany district spotted "repeaters" and had them prevented from voting, though the Tammany "heelers" were in great evidence.

**MADAM STEER,** Theatrical Costumier  
and Wig Maker,  
22, MAIDEN LANE, COVENT GARDEN, W.C.

Factory: 5, WATERLOO ROAD, S.E.

FANCY COSTUMES Made to Order or Lent on Hire.  
THEATRICAL BOOTS AND SHOES MADE TO ORDER.

**WE DON'T THINK,  
WE KNOW.**

ROYAL WORCESTER KID FITTING CORSETS are the most perfect in shape and most comfortable in wear, and give that indefinable smartness to the figure which is so charming. For name and address of nearest agent and booklet write to ROYAL WORCESTER WAREHOUSE CO., 19 & 21, Great Portland Street, London, W.



## WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Offices: 1, Robert Street, Adelphi.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON." Telephone—15143 Central Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.

President and Hon. Treasurer, MRS. C. DESPARD.

Hon. Assist. Treasurer, MISS C. V. TITE.  
Hon. Sec., MRS. HOW MARTYN, A.R.C.S., B.Sc.; Assist. Sec., MISS THOMPSON.

Hon. Departmental Officers:  
Organising Department—Political and Militant, MRS. BILLINGTON-GREIG; Propaganda, MRS. BORRMANN WELLS.  
Publishing Department—MRS. SNOW, MRS. EILEEN MITCHELL.

## PROPAGANDA DEPARTMENT.

### The Danger.

Before us is a General Election, and there is a danger that in the clash of contending parties an attempt will be made to push Woman Suffrage aside. If this happens, it will not be due to the fact that the reform which we champion is less important, less real, less vital, than others, but because we are voteless, and therefore many politicians think we can be disregarded.

Let one fact brand itself on the mind of every woman—that the measure of neglect shown to our demands is a measure of insult to our sex, and emphasizes the injustice and the shame of our disabilities.

### The Remedy.

To sit still under our wrongs would be worse than weakness, it would be a betrayal of the Cause for which we fight. Therefore, it is necessary for every woman, while keeping out of the party camps, to do something towards the enfranchisement of her sex.

### What Will You Do?

Before us are troublous and difficult times. We have to organise our forces and advance steadily to the attack. We must secure a great army of women, all awakened and all resolved. In fact, we want recruits from that great body of enlightened womanhood which sympathises with us but does not help. They must help, and the duties of a recruiting officer are the most useful and the most effective to-day.

We have devised a plan for reaching those now outside the movement, and I ask every member to co-operate. First of all, send me the names of every intelligent, open-minded woman you know, or know of, anywhere. All names will be sorted, and every district will be turned over to a tactful and skilful canvasser, supported by direct appeals from the head office, or from local headquarters. Thus it is hoped to cover the whole country, and for this special work we need in London one or two enthusiastic voluntary workers to take charge of the correspondence and general organisation. We are always glad to see our friends at this office, up to 8 p.m.

### Watching Westminster.

During the short life of the Autumn Session we propose to keep two sentinels and Vote sellers outside the principal entrance to the Houses of Parliament. Will everyone who can spend a few hours send in her name, so that the strain shall not be too severe on those who have already promised? Parliament shall not dissolve without an ever-present reminder of our demands.

### London "At Homes."

On Thursday, November 17, at Caxton Hall, Mrs. How Martyn will be in the chair, and Mrs. Despard will speak. Mrs. Billington-Greig's address at this "At Home" on the political situation and on the plans of the League is being eagerly awaited. It is hoped that London members will make a point of attending.

### General Activities.

Reference to the announcement columns will show how energetically all Branches are working. London members should note in particular Miss Muriel Matters' meeting at South Norwood on the 19th, and the Acton meeting on the 29th inst., when the speakers will be Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nevinson, and Mr. Joseph Clayton. B. BORRMANN WELLS.

## OUR TREASURY.

£ s. d.		£ s. d.	
Previously acknowledged	4,053 4 8	Morgan Browne, Miss	0 1 0
Despard, Mrs. C.	25 0 0	H. K.	0 5 0
Snow, Mrs.	20 0 0	Sanderson, Mrs. A.	0 2 6
Vulliamy, Mrs.	16 5 0	Tudor Jones, Mrs. H.	0 1 0
Borrmann Wells, Mrs.	5 11 0	Greenhow, Miss.	0 3 0
Nevinson, Mrs.	5 0 0	Mitchell, Miss A.	0 3 0
Cobb, Mrs. E.	5 0 0	Carr Shaw, Miss (col- lecting-box)	1 5 11
Buntin, Miss J.	10 0 0	Tite, Miss (collected)	0 11 0
Tite, Miss C.	5 0 0	Office Expenses Fund:	
Harvey, Mrs.	3 3 0	Sidley, Mrs. L.	1 0 0
Cobden Sanderson, Mrs.	2 0 0	Weir, Miss J. E.	0 10 0
"A Member of the Clapham Branch"	2 0 0	Harvey, Mrs.	0 9 4
Norwich Branch	3 3 0	Per H. S. Fry, Esq.	
Fry, H. S., Esq.	1 0 0	Miss C. N. Williamson	0 2 6
Drysdale, Mrs.	1 0 0	Per Walthamstow	
Vickery, Dr.	1 0 0	By-election:	
Hume Clapperton, Miss J.	1 1 0	Vassilopulo, Miss L.	0 1 0
Richards, Miss H.	0 1 0	O'Brien, the Hon.	
Williams, Miss L.	0 2 0	Miss	1 0 0
Coates, Miss G.	0 1 0	Brown, Mrs.	0 1 6
Dulwich (affiliation fee)	0 5 0	Treacher, Lady L.	5 0 0
Haslett, Miss	0 5 0	Gatty, Mrs. K.	0 7 6
Frisby, Miss (collect- ing-box)	0 2 0	Per Mrs. How Martyn:	
Ditto	0 1 0	Lecture fee	0 5 4
Wall Cousins, Mrs.	0 1 0	Stamford - hill Branch (affilia- tion fee)	0 5 0
Hare, Mrs.	0 1 0	Per Mrs. Borrmann Wells:	
Suteliffe, Mrs.	0 2 0	Mrs. Denibas' lan- tern lecture	1 8 9
Pickering, Mrs. (col- lecting-box)	0 8 6	Per Mrs. Despard:	
Spencer, Miss B.	0 2 6	Shelley Lecture	14 11 1
Lane, Mrs. H. J.	0 2 6	Per Mrs. Snow:	
Vatcher, Mrs.	0 2 6	Sale of Chestnuts	1 0 0
Cain, Miss J.	0 2 6	Per Miss K. Jenkins	1 8 3
Tyrell, Mrs.	0 1 0	Per Mrs. Harvey:	
Saunders, Miss M. I.	0 10 0	Bromley Pageant	0 10 0
Harvey, Miss E.	0 7 6	Per Suffrage Fair	
		Stall	4 4 6
		Collections and Sales:	
		London	27 4 4
		Total	£4,226 5 0

The Southall and Hayes Branch have sent 5s. for office expenses. In the last list it was entered by mistake as an affiliation fee.  
CONSTANCE TITE.

## WELSH CAMPAIGN.

The great Welsh coal-strike monopolises the newspapers at present. The miners receive the sympathy of rich and poor alike. We have been lately in the midst of these strikers, and we have seen a little of the misery caused by such an industrial war. On Saturday at Mountain Ash we watched the most pathetic procession we ever wish to see—a cart, dragged by some sixty strikers, wended its way from Aberdare, through Aberaman, Mountain Ash, and a few other mining towns, collecting food for the children. Tradesmen came out offering boxes of bread and sacks of potatoes, which were packed into the cart, to be distributed to thousands of starving children the following day.

### The Miners' Sympathy.

These men, who stopped at nothing to bring home to the Government their grievous plight, gave us the most courteous hearing possible; they listened to our grievances with a more understanding ear than usual; they signed our postcards eagerly, anxious to do their little bit towards giving to the women some measure with which to safeguard themselves.

On Sunday at Briton Ferry we had two most enthusiastic meetings, for which Mr. Malcolm Mitchell came down from London. Pontypridd, with its Town Hall filled with soldiers, who also paraded the streets, was in too excited a frame of mind to give us a very attentive hearing. So we mean to return at the earliest opportunity.

This week North Wales will be our happy hunting ground. Miss Clark, of Newtown, is most kindly arranging meetings for us in four towns. And we hope from each of these to send Mr. Lloyd George a large number of postcards and letters. MARGUERITE A. SEDLEY.

We remind our readers of the splendid fare provided at the Artists' and Writers' Suffrage Matinee, at the Aldwyoh on Friday next, the 18th.

## SUFFRAGE WEEK.

Suffrage week has seen splendid activities on the part of all the Suffrage societies, and if it has also been coincident with the announcement of the failure of the Conference, it has marked the success of the reunion between Suffrage associations of the most divergent policies. The number of prominent men speaking and participating in the week's work was very significant. All the meetings were well attended, some more so than others, and at all of them the members of the various societies met on common ground—their desire for the immediate passage of the Bill into law. The resolution demanding immediate facilities was passed unanimously at every meeting, and even after the announcement of the fact that the Conference had failed, the wording of the resolution was maintained. The appeal was made, as Lord Lytton said in his message to the Albert Hall meeting, to a dying Parliament, but that did not alter its urgency. One of the pleasant incidents of the week was when Mrs. Fawcett, in calling upon Mrs. Despard to speak at the Albert Hall, described her as one who "could wage a gallant fight and give the peace of Eden." But the week was full of generous tributes from the various societies to each other, and in the gathering of Saturday night at the Albert Hall, when fifteen Suffrage societies met on the same platform, there was a subtle menace to Mr. Asquith's peace of mind. The gravity of the political situation was borne in upon one and all, whatever their methods, and the result of the Conciliation Committee's deliberations is awaited with eagerness.

### TUESDAY'S MEETINGS.

On Tuesday the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association held a crowded meeting at St. James's Theatre, at which the Countess of Selborne presided. Sir John Rolleston, M.P., was the principal speaker. He recalled the fact that he had twice seconded the Bill in the House of Commons. Lady Stout, wife of the Chief Justice of New Zealand, told of the benefit the Dominion had experienced from the enfranchisement of women seventeen years ago. The fantastic policy of a woman's Council was ridiculed by other speakers, one of whom neatly said, "There are no women's questions, but there is a women's point of view."

The Artist Suffrage League held an evening meeting on Tuesday at 11, Cheyne-gardens, at which Mrs. S. Lownes and Miss Palliser spoke.

### WEDNESDAY.

The N.U.W.S.S. held a public reception at Chelsea Town Hall, at which Lady Frances Balfour, Miss Emily Davies, LL.D., Miss T. O. Ford, and Miss Maud Royden spoke. Lady Frances expressed the opinion that if only the Primrose League and the Women's Liberal Federation had stood for Women's Suffrage it would have come long ago.

### THURSDAY.—W.F.L. AT CAXTON HALL.

There was a large attendance at the "At Home" held on Thursday afternoon at Caxton Hall. Mrs. Vulliamy was in the chair, and Mrs. Nevinson and Mrs. Kineton Parkes were the speakers.

Mrs. Nevinson, having dealt with some of Lord Cromer's inaccuracies, pointed out that so badly were the laws of England made as regards women that an Englishwoman who was married to an alien could, if he were being deported, be ordered out of her own country. The law also decreed that a married woman had to remain in the workhouse if her husband wanted her company there, and she had to leave, no matter how bad the weather nor however unfitted she was to face it, if he desired it. The laws as regards women were mediæval and horrible, and she did not know whether it was worse for a woman to be married or single. Mrs. Kineton Parkes dealt with the question of tax resistance; Mrs. Colby, of Oregon, has come over from America to take part in the activities of the moment.

On Thursday afternoon the younger Suffragists held a lantern lecture at the Small Queen's Hall.

### FRIDAY AFTERNOON.—THE CHURCH LEAGUE.

The meeting of the Church League at the Medical Society's Rooms, 11, Chandos-street, was attended by a large and enthusiastic audience, many of whom were women who have not been gathered into other societies and who feel more at home in a league which is formed under the ægis of the Church. Rev. C. Baumgarten M.A., was in the chair and in his opening address observed that those who argued that St. Paul was against this movement were wrong—that the seeds of it were planted by St. Paul himself.

### Miss Ab-Adam: Making Empires and Men.

In the course of her address Miss Ab-Adam pointed out the significance of the Welsh Liberal women going on strike. It was the first organised attempt to show what real Liberalism means. It meant that they would work against Mr. Lloyd George, who, it must be remembered, was a national institution in Wales. It meant that they would have principle before party. The Conference had failed—they had heard that that morning. If that had been women, made up of eight female Cabinet Ministers and ex-Cabinet Ministers, and had held twenty-one meetings without coming to an agreement, they would have heard enough about it in the anti-Press.

Speaking of the anti-Suffrage argument, Miss Ab-Adam said that Lord Curzon had declared at Manchester that this great British Empire which had been built by men alone should be governed by men alone. But she would ask if men built the Empire, who built the men? And if men alone built the Empire, why was the cry coming from the colonies, "Send us your women"?

### White Slave Traffic.

Turning to the laws affecting women arising out of the existence of the social evil, Miss Ab-Adam pointed out that two years was the maximum penalty for a procurer, and so seldom was the maximum enforced that these men sold women again and again with impunity, risking the punishment. For their work she would sooner see sentence of death passed on them than upon Dr. Crippen. The social evil would exist as long as Government, the largest employers of labour, underpaid women. That the possession of the franchise alters the protection of women is seen in America. In States where women had the vote they were protected up to the age of eighteen; where they had not, as in Georgia, only up to the age of eight. The absence of a municipal lodging-house for women was partly responsible also for the social evil, and was a blot on our escutcheon which she would gladly see wiped out. Glasgow had been the pioneer in this good work. Manchester had followed suit, and it was time the other great cities followed their example.

Miss Sterling and Rev. C. Hinscliff (founder of the League) also spoke.

### FRIDAY EVENING.—AT THE FARRINGTON STREET MEMORIAL HALL.

A public meeting was held in the Farringdon-street Memorial Hall by three societies: The National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, the New Constitutional Society for Women's Suffrage, and the Fabian Society Women's Group. The meeting was largely representative of wage-earning women, and was most enthusiastic. The speakers were the Earl of Lytton, Miss Reddish (Weaver's Panel), Mrs. Ridge (Married Women Teachers), Miss Roper, Miss Murby (G.P.O.), Miss Williams, and Rev. Mr. Williams. Miss Eva Gore-Booth was in the chair, and declared that the meeting was intended to call attention to the representative nature of the demand of women wage-earners, and dealt with the evil results that followed from the accepted belief that

186,  
REGENT ST., W.

**Maud Barham**  
ARTISTIC and  
ORIGINAL DRESS  
for all occasions.  
HAND EMBROIDERIES.  
DJIBBAHS, COATS, HATS.



women were not economic units, and that it only mattered whether men had good wages or not.

#### Lord Lytton's Speech.

He had come there to explain the machinery by which the vote could be won. No one could be blind to the fact that the present situation had been very materially altered by the results of the Conference, and that it was very menacing to the cause which they had at heart. They were told that once more the two great political parties of the State were going to be engaged in the closest and fiercest political struggle. The situation was one where two men were fighting each other, and it was hopeless to try to separate them to listen to a woman who had a grievance to be redressed. The situation was an exasperating one. The question which was going to be fought out vitally affected the interests of women. It was bad enough to have to pay taxes with the imposition of which they had nothing to do, but now it was proposed to change the Constitution of the country without women having a chance to say whether that was right or wrong. The vote was required for women for the furtherance of the good government and the best interests of the State; but the very circumstances which must lead the most sanguine of them to realise how hopeless it was to try and settle this question at the present moment, was also the circumstance which rendered the vote for women ten times more necessary than before.

The irony of the vote was that if the women had the vote they would get it fast enough! (Laughter.)

#### Head of the House Vote.

Turning to machinery by which the vote might come, Lord Lytton said there were two methods possible: (1) a Government Bill on party lines; or, (2) a private measure based on a concordat of the suffrages of all parties. The former presupposed conditions impossible at the present time, and the principal drawbacks are that any party measure would be framed for party advantages, and not to give justice to women. It would not be in the women's interests and would have the united hostility of the party opposite, and its passage would leave behind a feeling of recrimination. The second procedure would be the better way—it was discussed and framed and agreed upon as a Bill which was meant to pass into law. It was framed to give practical realisation to the needs and demands which women are making in this country. Everybody here knows better than the Cabinet what that Bill will do. It has been already pointed out that it enfranchises the woman householder. From the Liberal point of view no one can describe such a Bill as an undemocratic Bill. It meets the desires of the Conservative suffragists as a cautious beginning. The Bill of 1867 which gave the household suffrage to men marked the fact that the house was a unit interested in the preservation of good government. That Bill stopped short, inasmuch as the head of a house only got a vote if he were a man.

A vote is not a reward which you give to the people you like best. It is a protection to be given to those who need it most. The Government had a unique and golden opportunity of doing this, but it was lost. The two fighting men had stopped fighting; the House rose before the dinner-hour because they had nothing to fight about. When they had plenty of time to give they refused it.

#### Meeting of the Conciliation Committee.

The movement gained an impetus from this treatment. No one, however lukewarm they were in the movement, could help being exasperated. Their duty was when the opportunity came round again it should not be allowed to slip by. He hoped the Conciliation Committee had so far earned its claim for sincerity that it might give advice on these points to the suffrage societies. On Tuesday next they would meet and send a message to the suffrage societies, telling them the lines on which they propose to work in the future, and what would be the terms on which they would obtain the neutrality of the Government. It was for the suffragists to obtain fresh evidence and to prepare the impetus, so that when the opportunity occurred again the Bill would be carried into law. They had done a great deal of work last session, and that work was not thrown away. They had advanced a stage from which there was no receding. The question is now one of burning political importance; no Parliament can ignore it; and no extension of the franchise can be attempted without the inclusion of women. In conclusion Lord Lytton alluded to the waste of good human material and valuable time that was forced on them by the necessity of eternal demonstrations.

#### SATURDAY, 2.30.—MEN'S LEAGUE MEETING AT TRAFALGAR-SQUARE.

At the Men's League Meeting on Saturday afternoon, there were six platforms, and eminent speakers at each, including Mr. Herbert Jacobs (president of the League) and Mr. Malcolm Mitchell (hon. secretary). All the speakers accentuated the fact that this Bill had the support of all parties. The resolution was passed from each platform in a most orderly manner, and there was no attempt at interruption. In spite of the bitterness of the afternoon between two and three thousand people assembled.

#### Mr. Joseph Clayton.

In urging that the Bill be given facilities, Mr. Joseph Clayton said:—

Once he has considered it and come to the conclusion that the thing demanded is just, the Englishman supports it. That is where we are standing to-day. We have a great body of support for this reform, and not even a Liberal House of Commons can stand in the way of carrying it into effect; not even a Liberal Prime Minister can for ever block the way for the will of the people. He may tell you that a General Election is at hand, and there is no time to deal with this reform.

#### General Election Not Wanted Before Christmas.

But nobody wants a General Election this side of Christmas; it would be bad for business people and bad for the whole country. He may tell you he is fully occupied concerning the Veto of the House of Lords; but the great danger to-day is not the Veto of the Lords at all but the veto of the Prime Minister on the expressed will of the House of Commons, which does away with much of the liberty which Englishmen have purchased at so great a price. We have a moderate amount of political liberty in England which is now being threatened not by the House of Lords but by the Cabinet in the House of Commons. You are allowing the power to pass out of the hands of the people by permitting the Cabinet to over-ride the expressed will of the country. We men have our elected representatives in the House of Commons, and they have decided by a bigger majority than could be obtained against the veto of the House of Lords in favour of this Bill, and we are demanding that it shall be carried into law. After all, what is political liberty? What is religious freedom, freedom of any kind? What can it be except the power to turn to good account that which has been won by the struggles on its behalf by those who have gone before us? But the liberties which our forefathers won at such great cost to them are being made of no effect by your Cabinet of to-day; and it is the plain duty, the plain responsibility of men who believe in liberty to resist to their utmost this curtailment of liberty. The feeling of this nation has changed rapidly towards Women's Suffrage, and our opponents are quickly disappearing. The real obstacles in the way of women's enfranchisement come from the pretended friends of woman suffrage.

#### Unbusinesslike Cabinet Minister.

Mr. Lloyd George opposes the Conciliation Bill because it does not go far enough. Have any of you ever been out on strike for a shilling a week more wages? If you were, would you expect your employers to come along in the midst of your agitation and tell you they could not give you the extra shilling because you had not asked for 10s more, since you were really worth that extra amount? What employer would act in that unbusinesslike way? Yet this is the way in which the men you place at the head of the State are acting. You allow them to deal with the affairs of this country in a manner that no ordinary intelligent business man would manage his own affairs. We do not expect the members of our Cabinet to display in their work as much business capacity as an ordinary employer, yet we call ourselves a business people! How long is this nation going to stand this sort of thing? Just as long as you resolve to allow Cabinet Ministers to play the fool!

#### The Men's Duty.

If we don't get a satisfactory answer from the Government and women have to go in deputation to Westminster, well, men will go too. We have had no deputation of women to Parliament for twelve months, for they also have kept the truce and have shown that they can exercise patience. But I want you to see when that women's deputation goes to Westminster—if it has to go—that these women do not go alone. We want to see the Lobby full of men. We don't want to break the law; we don't want to create disorder, we only want to insist upon a constitutional right; but if women are arrested, well, men will be arrested too.

#### Mrs. Despard.

Mrs. Despard, who came from Scotland to speak at the Men's League meeting, in the course of her speech said:—

I am exceedingly pleased to have the opportunity of speaking for the Men's League; I am particularly proud of this League because it bears out what I have always preached since I began to take part in this movement—that this is not a question for women alone, but a question for men as well as for women, yes, and a question for the children of the time that is to come. It was a joy to me two or three years ago when the men, and some of the very best and most intelligent men of this country, felt the justice of our cause so strongly that they formed themselves into a League to promote it. Now this Conciliation Bill was engineered by men, and has been carried through by men. It is called a Conciliation Bill because it is so framed to meet the wishes of all parties, and it has passed through the House of Commons by a large majority consisting of members of all parties. It is now before the House, and we are here to demand that facilities be given by the Government for its passage into law. We shall probably be told that there are more important things before the country: the questions of the Veto of the House of Lords, of Tariff Reform, and of Free Trade; but I tell

you that the things that are before the country at the present time are quite as important to women as they are to men.

#### Sir William Chance on the Postcard Canvass.

Sir Wm. Chance, in the course of his speech, dealt with the postcard canvass of the Anti's:—

I learn that postcards have been sent round to women municipal voters by anti-suffragists in regard to this Bill. The question was not directly, Do you want the Parliamentary vote? but a series of questions were asked. One was, "Do you wish women to become bad wives and mothers, to leave their homes and children to meddle in politics?" I am a suffragist, and would certainly answer "no" to that. But if I sent that answer I should be registered as an anti-suffragist. Another question I should also reply to in the negative, which was, "Do you wish women to go into Parliament and make laws for the nation?" No woman is making this demand, and the country generally does not wish it. But my reply would again class me as an anti-suffragist, whereas I am a suffragist. Another question was, "Do you wish to be governed by women instead of by men?" I should myself answer that also in the negative, but the Conciliation Bill does not suggest that question for the million women's votes would not swamp the votes of men. But in another district a house-to-house canvass of women municipal voters has revealed that out of 791 women on the municipal register, 612 were in favour of the Conciliation Bill, 61 were against, and 118 had not made up their minds and were put down as neutral. You see, 77 per cent. of these women municipal voters voted in favour of the Conciliation Bill. Even if a certain number of women don't want the vote, well, they need not vote; but I see no reason why they should prevent their sisters who do want it from having a vote.

The other day at Croydon Mrs. Humphry Ward complained that those women who were agitating for the Parliamentary vote were doing harm to the cause of women's work in municipal matters. But we have a Women's Local Government Society, and of the eighteen members of their executive committee, thirteen are convinced Suffragists, and all these ladies are doing excellent work in local government matters. Mrs. Despard—(applause)—was herself a member of a local governing body, and many Suffragists still work strenuously in this work; and if they can serve in the administrative work of local bodies, surely they should be allowed to vote for a Parliamentary candidate.

(For Saturday Albert Hall Meeting see page 45.)

#### MONDAY.

Suffrage week was brought to a conclusion on Monday

## The Choicest New Season's Fruits and Spices for Mincemeat and Christmas Puddings.

All Fruit Dry-cleaned by Patent Machinery.

<b>SULTANAS.</b>	Per lb. 7 lbs.	<b>RAISINS (Valencias).</b>	Per lb. 7 lbs.	<b>CURRENTS.</b>	Per lb. 7 lbs.
Finest Carabourna .. ..	-/8 4/7	Extra Selected, in original 7-lb boxes .. ..	4/3	Finest Heavy .. ..	-/6 3/5
Large Fruit .. ..	-/7 4/-	Best Selected .. ..	-/7 4/-	Vostizza .. ..	-/5 2/10
Greeks .. ..	-/6 3/5	Large Denia .. ..	-/6 3/5	Finest Patras .. ..	-/4 2/5
		Bold .. ..	-/5 3/1	Fine .. ..	-/3 2/-
		Fine Quality .. ..	-/4 2/5		
<b>PEEL, Candied.</b>		Stoned (1-lb Car-tons) .. ..	-/6 3/8	<b>SPICES.</b>	
(Best Quality only.)				Mixed Spice.	
Lemon .. ..	-/5 3/1	<b>ALMONDS (Cooking)</b>		Finest Quality, 2-oz tin -/3	
Orange .. ..	-/5 3/1	Extra Bold .. ..	1/9	Tins, 4-oz -/5; 1-lb -/8 1/2;	
Citron .. ..	-/8 4/8	Valencia, Finest .. ..	1/7	1-lb .. ..	1/3
*Mixed .. ..	-/6 3/6	" Fine .. ..	1/5	<b>Nutmegs.</b>	
Cut Orange and Lemon .. ..	-/4 2/9	Bitter .. ..	1/2	Whole .. ..	per lb 1/3
Crystallized Cut		Ground, Sweet 1-lb tin -/5		Ground .. ..	1-oz tin -/3
Mixed .. per Carton	-/7 1/2	1-lb tin -/9; 1-lb tin 1/5		2-oz tin -/4 1/2; 4-oz tin -/7 1/2	
		<b>SUET.</b>		<b>Cinnamon (Ground).</b>	
		Refined (S. & P.'s) lb packet .. ..	-/9 1/2	Tins, 1-lb 1/10; 1/2-lb 1/-	
		(Suet freed from skin and nothing whatever added.)		" 4-oz -/7; 2-oz -/4	

## SPIERS & POND'S STORES

Queen Victoria Street, London, E.C.

Free daily delivery by our vans and motors in London and Suburbs.

New Catalogue of 1,000 pages sent free on request.



## THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 148, Holborn Bars.  
Secretary—Miss M. E. RIDLER.  
Directors—Mrs. C. DESPARD, Mrs. E. HOW MARTYN, B.Sc.,  
COUNTESS RUSSELL, Mrs. J. E. SNOW, Mrs. L. THOMSON-PRICE.  
Managing Director—Miss MARIE LAWSON.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1910.

### ON THE KNEES OF THE GODS.

The Veto Conference is over, and it has ended in failure. Most of us expected little else, for it was plain from the beginning that this Conference was but a political expedient by means of which an immediate appeal to the country on the one side or a too close dependence upon Irish and Labour votes on the other might be avoided with some show of dignity by the Liberal Government. What is unexpected is the choice of the present moment for the unmasking of the farce. With but a few weeks to run through to reach the end of this year's Parliamentary labours, it would seem that the game might have been kept going until February, or indeed until June, because of the Coronation.

Of course it does not necessarily follow that because the truce between the Liberals and Conservatives is dissolved there will be an immediate appeal to the men electors of the country. We must admit frankly, I think, that this seems to be a highly probable result. But it is not necessary. The position of the Government is no worse now than the Conference is over than it was before the Conference was arranged; it can still continue its existence by permission of the Irish and Labour members; with these groups in close alliance it could continue to hold the reins for some considerable time.

Until Mr. Asquith declares the intentions of the Government to the House of Commons everything will remain upon the knees of the gods. We can hold no certain knowledge of what will transpire within the political world; all must be supposition, conjecture, or rumour. A very great deal depends for Suffragists upon the Government's decision. If a General Election is announced for the immediate future, then the gods will have been cruel to us; if the Government determines to defy the Conservative forces and to remain in power there is still hope for our speedy enfranchisement. But on this occasion, as once before, we find ourselves the mere sport of political circumstance; our fate hangs in the balance, and we are helpless to determine it even to the extent of a feather's weight. Even if we were voters we should be liable to be faced by such political accidents from time to time; but, while we are outside the constitution, and making use of political weapons within the political arena, we are much more at the mercy of every political change. More than once the dice appear to have been loaded against us when we were on the point of attaining victory.

The Government declaration will be made before the end of the week, but meanwhile we must survey the ground, decide upon our line of action in every contingency, and prepare ourselves to take action the moment everything is clear. If the Government announces its intention to remain in power, the position for us is substantially unchanged: we shall continue to demand priority of attention for the Conciliation Bill; we shall continue to claim that it shall be carried through the House of Commons without delay, and placed upon the statute book at the earliest possible moment. If the conditions laid down in last week's VOTE be completely fulfilled, we shall still be prepared to hold our hands and to accept a clear and definite Government pledge for 1911, provided that we know the Government will then be in office and that the Bill will be the Conciliation Bill or one equally certain to become law under existing conditions. But if the decision be one of appeal to the male electorate our position will be utterly different. The few weeks of Parliamentary time left to us will be totally insufficient for the practical establishment of any form of women's suffrage in time for the exercise of

citizen's rights by women at the General Election. The Conciliation Committee will probably progress as far as possible with its Bill, with the intention of obtaining from the Cabinet a pledge which will commit the next Liberal Government to a specific measure of enfranchisement. But such pre-election pledges must always be regarded with suspicion. Especially under existing circumstances must Suffragists, and particularly militant anti-Government Suffragists, look behind and beyond any such pledge. Even if we were prepared to accept the pledge as an honourable pledge of future action (and politicians' pledges are notoriously not of the same value as those of ordinary people), we would still have to face the fact that in politics, much more than in any other department of life, the power of the pledge-giver to carry out his pledge is always a matter of grave doubt. We have to remember, too, that there is some reason for disbelief in the good faith of a Government that for six years has met our demand with persistent and violent refusal. Under such conditions a pre-election pledge cannot be regarded by us as seriously affecting the existing conditions. We may perhaps be forgiven if in these circumstances we say that the time for repentance for this Government has already gone by, and it must expect to meet our anti-Government opposition at the General Election.

We fully understand that one of the immediate objects of our anti-Government activity is to draw a definite and satisfactory pledge from the Government in power. We are prepared to admit that if such a pledge be given under ordinary conditions, when a General Election is not imminent and there seems to be good reason for assuming that the makers of the pledge will have opportunity of carrying it out, and if after all a political accident should bring about premature dissolution, we should be in honour bound to abide by the conditions of peace imposed. In the supposititious case cited we should be parties to an honourable truce, and no upheaval of political affairs that made it impossible for the pledge to be carried out would absolve us. We should be in honour bound to refrain from attack upon the representatives of the retiring Government. In some circumstances even it might become essential for Suffragists to take a less negative attitude. But these conditions are far from being satisfied now. After the experiences we have had during the last six years of Liberal Government we have less faith than formerly in the promises of politicians. On the question of Women's Suffrage we have less faith than on any other question. The record of repression and violence, and trickery and evasion, which has been written down in the deeds of the men we should have to trust, makes trust at this stage an utter impossibility. For this Government, if at this crisis it makes its appeal to the country, the day of repentance comes too late. A pledge at the beginning of the year would have merited belief and a suspension of hostilities. A pledge on the eve of an election is worth nothing to us.

There is one other aspect of the case which demands consideration. Let us suppose that certain conditions were fulfilled, and that at some future date we should find ourselves faced by an election in which the retiring Government had given us an honourable pledge which it had not been able to carry out. Let us suppose further that this Government was defeated at the polls, and that the opposing party was returned to power. The line of our anti-Government action would remain unchanged, of course, though as the one party had given a pledge it would tend to become much less independent, but we should have to pay the price of a more or less indefinite postponement. We have always protested against any counsel of delay, and we should resent and deplore any such condition, but we must be prepared to consider all the consequences of our actions before we snatch at any politician's pledge.

The next few days will decide our immediate fate in the political world. We can do nothing in the time of doubt and uncertainty but wait, yet our waiting will be not unfruitful if we are preparing ourselves for any contingency.

TERESA BILLINGTON-GREIG.

## New Winter Blouses



SENT ON APPROVAL.

NEW FÊTE BLOUSE (as sketch), an entirely new idea, in best quality nixon, with wide ribbon of contrasting colour underneath, round the figure and over the shoulders, finished with black ribbon velvet, and lace vest and collar. In black, white and all shades.

21/9

Debenham & Freebody

Wigmore Street (Cavendish Square), London, W.

### BRANCH NOTES.

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

**Croydon.**—Mrs. Terry, 9, Morland-avenue.

On Friday, November 11, the last of the open-air meetings was held at South Norwood Clock. Considering the damp and cold a fair-sized crowd gathered round the decorated cart to hear Miss Fenning's. The speakers kept the listeners very attentive and stationary. Our hearty thanks are due to Miss Fenning and her sisters for their constant devotion to the cause in carrying on these meetings for several months and making them entirely successful.

On November 14 Miss M. Turner comes to help our branch for a week, so that we have plenty of work in hand. For fixed meetings see Forthcoming Events.—E. TERRY.

**Battersea.**—Mrs. Duval, 37, Park-road, Wandsworth, S.W.

On Tuesday, November 8, we held an open-air meeting at Taybridge-road, Lavender-hill. Mrs. Reader took the chair, and spoke on the value of the vote for the benefit of the working women. Mrs. Duval dealt with Mr. Lloyd George's objections to the Conciliation Bill, and appealed to the electors to put Women's Suffrage first on their programme. In spite of the cold we had a very large audience, the women of which encouraged us, in spite of a solitary Liberal heckler, who finished by buying a copy of THE VOTE.

We remind our friends of our first public meeting, to be held in the Lecture Room, Free Library, Lavender-hill, on November 17, at 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Miss Bennett and Dr. Macpherson.—N. D. D.

**Crystal Palace and Anerley.**—Miss Fenning, 149, Croydon-road.

On Monday, November 7, our speakers both disappointed, and Miss Fenning took the whole meeting, speaking on the present situation. There were several questions, and THE VOTE was sold.

On Monday, November 21, the Anerley Branch of the Church of England Men's Society have invited Miss Fenning to address a meeting at Holy Trinity Schoolroom, Melvin-road, at 8.15 p.m. Both men and women will be welcome.

**Stamford-hill.**—Mrs. Cunningham, 114, Holmleigh-road, N. Arrangements for Friday evening's meeting are proceeding apace. Miss Elsie Squire has kindly promised to sing, and Miss Allwork and Miss Boniface will respectively contribute 'cello

and pianoforte solos. All our members should endeavour to be present and to bring their friends.

**Willesden.**—15, Creighton-road, Kilburn, N.W.

A very successful Whist Drive was held at 2, Park Houses, Willesden-green, on Wednesday, November 9. A very pleasant evening was spent, whilst the presence of Mr. Yaldwin, of the Men's League, who gave a very able address during the interval, enabled us to combine work with pleasure. Thanks are due to Miss Normanton and Miss Fuller, who lent their rooms for the occasion, and to Miss James, who gave the refreshments. A Jumble Sale will be held in St. Andrew's School, Willesden-green, at the end of the month, and we shall be glad if friends will send all contributions to Miss Fuller, 2, Park Houses, Willesden-green, any time before Wednesday.—L. BENNETT, Hon. Secretary.

**Hornsey.**

At Hornsey Fire Station, on November 9, at 8 p.m., Miss Anna Munro favoured us with an address. Though the night was very cold a fair-sized audience was obtained. Miss Munro had to repeatedly emphasize that we did not want to take men's votes away. Many of the audience agreed that women should legislate for women and children. Many thanks are due to the police by their very prompt attention to disturbers.—M. S. S.

### SOUTH OF ENGLAND BRANCHES.

**Eastbourne.**—Mrs. DLKS, 39, Milton-road.

**Portsmouth and Gosport.**—Mrs. CRAWLEY, 4, St. Paul's-road, Southsea.

Hon. Organiser—Mrs. WHEATON, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea.

**West Sussex.**—Miss CUMMIN, Eastbourne Vicarage, Midhurst.  
**Brighton and Hove.**—Mrs. FRANCIS, 51, Buckingham-place, Brighton; Miss HARE, 8, San Remo, Hove.

The local W. F. L. took a prominent part in organising the mass open-air meeting that was held on the Level on Saturday last. All the local societies joined, and there were 4 platforms, with 20 speakers, and over 1,500 listeners. One marked characteristic of the crowds was their respectful attitude; there were no interruptions, and the resolution that the Government should give facilities to the Conciliation Bill was carried at each of the four platforms. Mrs. How Martyn and Miss Munro came down to speak at the W.F.L. platform, and were supported by Mr. and Mrs. Francis.

The working parties in preparation for the Jumble Sale are being held every Friday at different members' houses. Information regarding the local branch can be obtained from the Secretary.

**LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.**—Hon. Organiser: Miss MANNING, B.A., Harper-hill, Sale, Cheshire.†

**Manchester, Central.**—Miss A. E. HORDERN, 12, Limefield-terrace, Levenshulme.

The Manchester Central Branch held its annual meeting on Wednesday, November 9, at the Portland Café, Miss Neal presiding. The attendance was very small, and members need reminding that by abstaining from the business meetings they make the work of the officers much more difficult than it need be, while at the same time they do not relieve themselves of any of the responsibility attaching to members of a democratic body.

The President, in her address, congratulated the branch on its satisfactory position, the increased membership, the improved financial condition, and the substantial success which has attended its work during the past year, and noticeably at the General Election. Manchester members will not soon forget Mr. Hilaire Belloc's tribute to their work in South Salford, where it was so effective as to make him think and say in the House of Commons that: "The whole suffrage strength of Manchester was concentrated in his little constituency." The President closed her address with a warm tribute of appreciation of the services of the Secretary, Miss Agnes Horder, and her sister, the Literature Secretary, who in spite of bad health and other disadvantages have proved such loyal and helpful colleagues during the past year.

The Secretary's report told of many indoor and outdoor meetings, of the special campaign in the Stockport District, and more particularly of the two great demonstrations in Alexandra Park, at which great crowds supported the resolution in favour of the Conciliation Bill.

Mrs. Despard's visits in January and September were productive of much good. Miss Murray's ten days' campaign in the district, and particularly ten drawing-rooms, arranged by our own members—Mrs. Hankin, Mrs. McMurray, Mrs. Plenderleith, and Mrs. Rose Hyland—also brought an increase to our ranks. The meeting arranged by our members, Mrs. Willmott and Mrs. Clegg, for Mrs. Despard, on October 22, was very successful. The last event in the year was the Whist Drive, held at the Portland Café on November 3, the success of which was largely due to the Misses Horsfall and Bowerbank, who sold 47 tickets for it.

The Literature Secretary also had a very satisfactory report. This department was in a very chaotic condition last year, but Miss Horder's efforts have been well rewarded. The sale of general literature has increased and profit has been made on THE VOTE, due largely to a few of our members who undertake the distribution of a number of copies weekly. The accounts show a balance, and it is proposed to devote a portion of this to the General Fund of the branch.

Unfortunately the satisfaction at this report was damped



by the unexpected announcement that Miss Hordern was compelled to decline re-election to the post, and a conditional appointment of a fresh secretary was made which will have to be confirmed at the next meeting of the branch.

The President read the Treasurer's account, which also shows a satisfactory balance in hand, and which we hope to publish next week. Many members have not paid their subscriptions, and are reminded that two are now due and should be forwarded at once to the Treasurer, c.o. Miss A. Hordern.

After the reports had been discussed the branch proceeded to elect the officers for the coming year, and the following were appointed:—President, Miss Neal; Secretary, Miss A. E. Hordern; Treasurer, Miss Bowerbank.

It is hoped Miss Wright will accept the Literature Secretaryship, but owing to there being no time to consider nominations this appointment will be decided next meeting, which will be held on November 30 at Mrs. Hankin's house, Stockport-road. Will the members please make a special effort to be present, as a report of the Special Conference recently held in London will be given them?

It was decided to issue a new membership card, which will be printed and ready in the course of a week or two. The meeting then closed.—M. I. NEAL, President.

#### Norwich.

Very heartily Norwich welcomed Mrs. Despard on Tuesday, November 8. The Agricultural Hall Assembly Room was filled to the gallery. Mr. G. Roberts, M.P., took the chair. Mrs. Despard spoke on "Woman in the Changing World," and proposed the resolution asking facilities for the Conciliation Bill. This was seconded by Miss Wise, of the N.U.W.S.S., and passed by a large majority.—M. JEWSON.

\* \* \* EDITOR'S NOTE.—The report of Manchester activities arrived late, and has to be held over. Addresses of Branches not sending notices have also had to be held over. The Editor would be grateful to Branch Secretaries if they would condense their reports as much as possible. At present they are sent in far too lengthy a form.

### SCOTTISH NOTES.

Glasgow: Suffrage Centre, 302, SAUCHIEHALL STREET.  
Office Secretary: MISS MCARTHUR.  
Hon. Treasurer: MISS BUNTON.

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

A large and enthusiastic audience assembled in the Athenæum on Friday evening to hear Mrs. Despard and Miss Alison Neilans.

Mrs. Billington-Greig, who was in the chair, pointed out that when all's said and done the Veto of the Lords is a constitutional one, but the Veto of the Cabinet is an unconstitutional one.

As Mrs. Despard rose to speak she was presented by Mrs. Murray, of Cardross, in the name of the Glasgow Branch of the W.F.L., with a bouquet, showing the colours of the League. Mrs. Despard's eloquent speech was listened to with the deepest interest.

She appealed to the men to use their imagination, and try to feel as women must feel at the present time, when they look round and consider the existing condition of things. She appealed to the women to come and join the League and take part in the good work, and not lay up regrets for themselves in the future when they remained passive at present. In conclusion, Mrs. Despard seconded the resolution, which was then put to the meeting and carried unanimously.

The Rev. S. J. C. Goldsack moved a vote of thanks to all the speakers, which was given most heartily. A very liberal collection was taken during the meeting, and the sale of THE VOTE and other literature delighted the heart of the Literature Secretary.—LAVINIA STEWART.

Edinburgh.—Shop and Headquarters: 33, Forrest-road.

Hon. Secretary.—Miss A. B. JACK, 21, Buccleuch-place.

Hon. Treasurer.—Miss M. A. WOOD, 67, Great King-street.

Hon. Shop Secretary.—Mrs. THOMSON, 39, Rosslyn-crescent.

It is always a sign of life when some fresh form of activity falls to be chronicled. This week it is an advertising parade for Mrs. Despard's meeting. Umbrellas prepared by several members under the direction of Mrs. Gauld, and posters beautifully executed by Miss Jolly, M.A., were carried by some seventeen members through the principal streets on Monday and Tuesday. As usual, we found that more courage was needed to face the idea than the actual doing, and the procession, led by Miss Thomson and Miss Ireland, as banner-bearers, had quite a friendly reception.

Wednesday's meeting was a most enthusiastic one, as it could hardly fail to be with such speakers. The Rev. Mr. Main made an ideal chairman, and the branch is much indebted for the active interest he has shown by coming forward in this capacity. Miss Neilan's vigorous and forcible address was keenly appreciated, and of Mrs. Despard it can only be said that she held her audience in a spell, broken at frequent intervals by rounds of applause. Specially noticeable was the large proportion of men present, and their keen interest. The hall was beautifully decorated under the supervision of Miss Jacob, B.Sc. A good collection was taken, and VOTES, pamphlets, and postcards sold well.

The Joint Debate with the Heriot-Watt College Literary Society: "That the Women's Suffrage Societies should work for Adult Suffrage instead of for political sex equality merely."

proved to be quite a triumph for our policy. *The Evening News* says that 330 persons were present, and it was quite evident from the reception accorded to the speeches of the W.F.L. leaders—Miss McLachlan, M.A., and Mrs. Morison—that the audience considered our case well proved. Many were not entitled to vote, but we carried the negative by 92 votes to 19. Three dozen VOTES were sold as the meeting dispersed.

The "Hard-Up Social" has been postponed in the meantime.—HELEN MCLACHLAN, Assistant Secretary.

### "JUST TO GET MARRIED."

BY CICELY HAMILTON.

LITTLE THEATRE, EVERY EVENING, AT NINE.



Miss Cicely Hamilton.

On November 8 this play was produced at the Little Theatre, and according to Miss Gertrude Kingston's plan the name of the author was kept secret. But it was the pleasantest sort of secret, the secret which everybody knows, and I went to the theatre rejoicing to hear a play by Miss Cicely Hamilton, a name well known and beloved in the Women's Freedom League.

As a Suffragist, I naturally considered the play most from the point of view of propaganda, and was absolutely delighted, though the awful word "suffrage" is never mentioned, and, with one exception, the characters, I feel sure, are all antis.

But from beginning to end the fact was impressed upon one that under the system of "Marriage as a Trade" in the long run woman has her revenge on man, and he stands to suffer as much as she does by her want of freedom. The play is also interesting as a sidelight on the topical question of divorce. Some of the witnesses before the Divorce Commission have been sufficiently far-seeing to remark that there would be less need for divorce if marriages were more carefully made. The marriage in the play is very, very carefully made, but not on the sound and sincere foundations which are necessary if marriage as an institution is to receive any reverence.

The play is, however, equally attractive from the artistic point of view. One of the charms is the complete unconsciousness of the heroine that she is engaged in any sort of propaganda, and the perfect naturalness of the intimate talks between the women, especially in the third act. At the end of the second act the enthusiasm was tremendous—the heroine had repented of her unscrupulous hoodwinking of an honest man, and parted in wrath from her scheming aunt—but the third act was evidently a little harder to accept. I fear that it was a grievous shock to some people to find that the heroine could not forget her appearance even in those harrowing moments, and the calmness with which she accepts the promptly offered pocket-mirror and powder-puff must be somewhat disconcerting to those romantic souls.

To me the only part of the play which was not quite satisfactory was the end, but I humbly own that I cannot think of a better one, and probably no other would have been tolerated. A limited space prevents me from describing the acting in much detail; I can only say that it was as excellent as the play deserves. It is well worth going to see Miss Kingston alone, who, apart from her fine acting in the whole of the second act, was admirable in the waiting-room scene. The other characters were all so good that it would be difficult to select any for particular praise. Miss Rosina Filippi, however, had a special success at the moment where she enters as the smiling aunt, after the young man has been secured.

The Little Theatre must certainly be considered an acquisition to the London theatre world, and Miss Kingston is to be congratulated on her idea.

CONSTANCE TITE.

## ALBERT HALL MASS MEETING, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 12.

The Albert Hall was a splendid sight on Saturday night, when the banners and colours of fifteen different Suffrage societies blended in a harmonious whole, and representatives of them all filled the hall from stalls to the topmost gallery. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed, and the resolution, which was proposed by Mr. Brailsford and seconded by Mrs. Despard, was carried unanimously: "That this mass meeting convened by the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies, the Women's Freedom League, the Men's League for Women's Suffrage, the Conservative and Unionist Women's Franchise Association, the Liberal Forward Suffrage Union, the Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Society, the Church League for Women's Suffrage, the London Graduates' Union for Women's Suffrage, the Scottish University Women's Suffrage Union, the New Constitutional Women's Suffrage Society, the Younger Suffragists, the National Industrial and Professional Women's Suffrage Society, the Actresses' Franchise League, the Artists' Suffrage League, and the Suffrage Atelier, calls upon the Government to grant facilities for the carrying into law this session of the Representation of the People (Women) Bill, 1910." Amongst many letters and telegrams received was one from Mr. Keir Hardie wishing the meeting every success, and reminding them that the position of the woman's question was more hopeful and also more perilous at the present moment than it had been since 1867.

#### MRS. HENRY FAWCETT'S ADDRESS.

Mrs. Henry Fawcett, who was in the chair, was enthusiastically received. In the course of her address, having alluded to the representative character of the meeting, she said:—

#### United and Determined.

What we have to do now, perhaps more than ever before, is to impress upon the so-called representative Chamber of the Houses of Parliament that it is not really representative so long as half of the population are entirely excluded from all share in the system of representation. Mr. Birrell, speaking a fortnight ago on this subject, said that in his view the time for shuffling and delay had gone by. Shuffling and delay have been our great enemies in the past, and we know—whatever Mr. Birrell may say—that we have still to meet with them in the future, but we are perfectly united and perfectly determined.

We will go on with this fight until we see it through to a finish. We are not going to be put off by any difficulties or obstacles that may be put in our way. (Cheers.)

#### Women Suffrage Candidates.

I know I shall be asked what we are going to do. Well, I stand here as the representative of one of the fifteen societies that have called this meeting and I cannot tell you exactly what the other fourteen societies are going to do, but the National Union resolved several months ago that when the General Election came they would do their very utmost to run Women's Suffrage candidates in carefully-selected constituencies. We believe that in that way we can become a political force at the next General Election. We shall not hesitate to use all the power and strength we can command to make that a real and a living policy.

Having made an appeal to women to come out of their party organisations, Mrs. Fawcett went on to say:—I wish women of all political parties to come to the rescue of their parties in this matter, because at present the parties are placing themselves in a very ridiculous and false position. At the last General Election I know for an absolute fact that a paper of instructions was issued by one political party to those men who were willing to work for them in the constituencies, and that at the head of that paper of instructions occurred these words: "Make all possible use of every available woman in your district." Now, is this not an absurdity from which you should rescue the parties to which you belong? Do not allow yourselves to be used in this way by men who at the same time are denying to you the most elementary sign and symbol of citizenship.

#### MR. BRAILSFORD'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Brailsford (Hon. Sec. Conciliation Committee), who was received with prolonged applause, the whole audience rising to greet him, said:—

In the absence of Lord Lytton there has fallen on me, his lieutenant, the honour of proposing your resolution. It is that this meeting, convened by the fifteen societies represented here to-night, calls upon the Government to grant facilities for the carrying into law this session of the Representation of the People (Women) Bill, 1910. You will expect from me to-night

some explanation of the position as we in the Conciliation Committee see it.

#### The Chancellor's Appeal.

I thought for one sanguine moment when I opened *The Times* this morning that I should have to congratulate you upon a victory already won, for I read there a ringing appeal to the democracy, over the signature of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and this appeal ran to the effect that he called on the people to support a Government which was fighting for equal rights for all Britons. I wondered when I read that if the events of this autumn had already had their effect; I wondered if the resolution passed by Bangor Town Council, the city which Mr. Lloyd George represents, in favour of our Bill had had its due effect; I wondered also whether that equally magnificent resolution passed by the Welsh Liberal women at Cardiff to confine themselves to Suffrage work only until the vote be won had also told where they had meant it to tell. (Cheers.) But on reflection a cooler mood came upon me, and I analysed the terms of this declaration—equal rights for all Britons. But you are not Britons; you are not citizens. (Shame.) Your birthright as English women and Welsh and Scottish and Irish women is denied you; you are in this State helots.

#### The Night of Power.

But there comes even to the helot her moment of opportunity. There is in the Mohammedan calendar a certain day which is called with a romantic name—the Night of Power. I never see that name without thinking of a General Election; even to the humblest of electors the General Election is a night of power. For one moment the great are down on their knees before him, seeking his vote; he is the Christopher Sly who is hailed as the king for one brief hour. And to you, even you helots who are denied the name of Britons, comes also your night of power. There will come to you in the few weeks that are likely to elapse before the General Election appeals to give your services to this candidate and the other; to go forth and tell the men who alone have the right to vote how you, in your experience and intelligence, desire that they should vote. And remember, when these appeals come to you, to put on the party favours and go out in the sleet and the snow to canvass through the villages and the slums, or when appeals come to you freely to give your time to the candidate, remember that this Government, when it had the time, when it had the opportunity, refused to give time to the Bill which would enfranchise you. (Shame.) They

## WILLIAM OWEN.

The  
Cyprus  
Parisienne  
Corset



in fine  
White  
Coutil, it  
comes  
down very  
deep over  
the hips,  
and has  
elastic at  
back, as  
illustration  
Directoire  
Shape.  
Perfect  
fitting and  
there are  
three pairs  
of suspenders  
attached.

Corsets Fitted  
by Expert  
Corsetiers.

Price 21/-

Westbourne Grove,  
LONDON, W.



will ask you to spend, it may be, three weeks or a month in the arduous and thankless work of canvassing and speaking. Well, remember that this Government was unwilling to curtail its vacation, to shorten its holiday by so much as the three or four days that would have been required to carry our Bill into law.

#### Reform Bills and Their Time.

They have told us that there was no time for the Bill. I have been looking up the history of other Reform Bills. The last of them, the Reform Bill of 1884, was a very elaborate one. It was a Bill of eleven clauses, very technical, and the shortest of these clauses was longer than the whole of our Bill. Now what do you suppose was the time required to carry the Reform Bill of 1884 through the Committee stage? It got exactly nine days. On the same ratio, they would have required for our Bill two or three days. There is the situation as it stood in the summer; there was their chance, when the political crisis was at its lull, when the dominant issue had gone to sleep, when they were at odds to find work for Parliament to do. There was their chance, and that chance was rejected. Remember specially, those of you who are party women, when appeals are made to you for time, that time has been denied to you.

#### Our Progress.

But how do we stand to-day? The prospects to my thinking are very hopeful. You remember how we stood in this hall no longer than a year ago, and the Prime Minister repeated the declaration which he had made two years before. That declaration was dated the dim and speculative future. You were to have your Bill or an amendment to a Reform Bill at some time coming, but the clouds hid that moment from the gaze of the man who controls the time of the House. But where do we stand now? I think I see a certain light in the dimness of that future. Three Cabinet Ministers have spoken during the last few weeks, and they are not the least honest and sincere members of that body—Mr. Birrell, Mr. Runciman, and now Sir Edward Grey, and they have told the women who interviewed them that they have every reason for their impatience—(applause)—and that in their opinion full facilities to carry our Bill into law ought to be given next year. Those are individual declarations. You will not, I think, in any of the societies represented here to-night, be satisfied until those declarations have been converted into a Government pledge. (Loud cheers.) I cannot tell you with any authority what the Committee which I represent will do when it reassembles on Tuesday, but this I think I may anticipate—that with its utmost energy and its utmost courage it will press the demand embodied in your resolution. (Continued cheers.) It will point out that there is time, that time can be found, that time is a commodity which we expect Governments to make. And only if it fails, with all your efforts behind it, will it even talk about next year. And I ask you, while these delicate negotiations are going on, which may take a week or a fortnight, to bear the delay with patience, to remember that it is difficult to focus the mind of a Government on your question. The dominant sex has a dominant issue just now, and it will take all the efforts of our Committee which brings to a focus the splendid work of the Suffrage societies during this autumn, to force the Government to a realisation of the urgency of the problem before it.

#### Be Importunate Widows.

Don't mistake me; I am not here to urge you to patience. The man who talks to an audience of women about patience in such an issue as this is committing an insolence and an insult. I say, on the contrary, to you to take the advice which you will find in one of the speeches of a Cabinet Minister this autumn. Mr. Haldane told you that you must not be nagging wives. I would convert that only by a little turn of phrase and say to you rather be importunate widows. There used to be in ancient days a certain distinction of language between the women and the men; you will find traces of it in the Greek tragedies. There were words which were not allowable for a man to utter, words confined only to women! And the scientists tell us that the origin of that curious habit sprang from the habit of marriage by capture. Well, you are all captives and you must have a woman's language. You must all, in this election which is coming, whatever men may be talking about, whatever issues may dominate in their minds, you must let your voice be heard with only one language, one appeal—Votes for Women! (Prolonged applause.)

#### SIR ALFRED MOND, Bart., M.P.

In the course of his speech Sir Alfred Mond said:—

I have only this afternoon returned from Wales, and I have been charged to bring you a message from 1,500 Liberal women of my constituency of Swansea who have passed a unanimous resolution urging on their not unwilling member to press the Government to afford facilities for the Conciliation Bill this session. I must congratulate you that, after a week of demonstration unequalled I think on any political question in the metropolis, you are able to muster such a magnificent meeting to-night, as full of enthusiasm and zeal for the cause as any meeting which it has ever been my privilege to address.

#### MRS. DESPARD.

Mrs. Despard (Women's Freedom League), who was most enthusiastically received, said in the course of her address:—

I stand here, and I am proud to stand here, as a representative

of the Women's Freedom League. It is because, I suppose, we represent such a big thing—freedom not only for women, but for men and children also—that sometimes it takes a very wide form with me. But what I want to say to you is this: However difficult it may be I do not yet despair of this Conciliation Bill. But if we are made to realise that our efforts and the efforts of our friends on the Conciliation Committee have been in vain, that we are being scoffed at—well, I am not going to promise you what we will not do then. We are going to fight, and you need not be afraid of the word, my friends; there is a good deal of that word fighting in Scripture. Women are going to prove that they can fight; they have done a little fighting in the past, and they are going to do a little more in the future. (Cheers.) We will go forward, women and men, sisters and brothers together, with one common aim, working to bring in the things that are really great. (Cheers.)

Other speakers were Sir John Cockburn, Mr. C. S. Goldman, M.P., Hon. Mrs. Bertrand Russell, Mrs. Swanwick, M.A., and Miss Reddish.



# Beddalls

Ltd

**Special Purchase of 250 SMART TWEED COATS**

(as per sketch), in light or dark good quality Tweeds, semi-fitting back; collar can be worn as shown, or down with large lapels.

Price **21/9**

Well worth **32/9**

Also limited quantity in Sporting Raglan shape. Same quality Tweeds.

**21/9**

**KENTISH TOWN ROAD, LONDON, N.W.**

## MR. ISRAEL ZANGWILL AT ALBERT HALL, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1910.



Mr. Israel Zangwill.

Speaking at the W.S.P.U. meeting at the Albert Hall, Mr. Zangwill said:—

#### "Signs of the Times."

Cabinet Ministers were last year unanimous in assuring us that the cause of Female Suffrage had been put back by the militant tactics of the body which is responsible for this mass meeting, that never had Female Suffrage stood so remote and uncertain. When I remember that our majority of 110 in Parliament, I am tempted to say, in the words of the Gospel, "Ye hypocrites!" The Gospel says more than that, "Ye hypocrites! Ye can discern the face of the sky and of the earth. How is it ye cannot discern the signs of the time?" Never was Female Suffrage so near and so certain. The principle of Female Suffrage is now absolutely safe, far safer than the places of these Cabinet Ministers. (Hear, hear.) If Mrs. Shipton had been a real prophetess, she would have left us as a prophecy, "When shall women vote? When men fly!" (Applause.) I believe that in the drowsy circles of the old-world haunts of the Anti-Suffragist League the principle of votes for women is still regarded as open to debate. Not so in live political circles, not even in Parliament. There the question is no longer "Whether?" it is "How?" It is not now "Shall women have votes?" but "Which party shall collar women's votes?" The settlement of this little question is the only thing that delays our triumph. Till the other day both parties banged the door in women's face; now both are fighting to hold the door open for her, and this is the only cause—this excess of chivalry—which blocks the doorway and accounts for the fact that she is still outside. But the object of our movement is not votes for Conservatives nor votes for Liberals—it is Votes for Women! (Applause.)

#### The Asquith Veto.

Mr. Asquith last night described the international situation in regard to armaments as a tragic paradox; but I think you may search history for a long time to find a more comic paradox than the situation of Mr. Asquith with hands raised to heaven against the Veto of the Lords when both his feet are firmly placed upon the majority in the Commons. We demand the removal of this Asquith Veto! (Applause.) We demand the liberty of Parliament against the tyranny of the Cabinet. "I invite you," said Mr. Asquith in this very hall, "to consider the veto of the Lords as the dominating issue in British politics." I am sorry to tell him there is no such dominating issue. If it ever was a burning question the Conference has quenched it; but even at the height of its flame the majority which Mr. Asquith obtained for the Veto Bill was only 103, and that after every ounce, the last ounce of pressure had been exerted to bring this about. We have 110 majority, with 130 absentees still squeezable. I invite Mr. Asquith to consider Female Suffrage as the dominating issue in British politics. I call upon the Liberal leader to bow to the Liberal majority, although I know that that majority comes from both sides of the House, and one result of the searchlight which has been turned upon that House has been to disclose who are the real Liberals and who are the real Conservatives. For what can be more Radical than to admit a new sex to the franchise; and what can be more Tory than to cling blindly to the *status quo*? For once Members were not subject to the dictates of their Party Whips and were allowed to vote for principle; to be true to their own opinion.

#### The Palace of Truth.

In this way the House of Commons was turned into a Palace of Truth; and what strange sights we saw there! Mr. Asquith stood revealed as a high old Tory; Balfour as a Liberal; Winston Churchill as a Wobbler; and Lloyd George, well, as a lawyer! We witnessed the spectacle of a Tory leader instructing a Liberal Prime Minister in Liberal principles, explaining the fact that government rests on the consent of the governed. That both parties are bitterly dissatisfied with their leaders is an open secret, and I can only suggest that they should "swop" them. Perhaps this is what the Conference is preparing; perhaps this is the jealously guarded secret. I am sure it is a solution which Suffragists would welcome. The case of Winston Churchill and Lloyd George differs from the case of Mr. Asquith. These gentlemen are not too Tory; they are too Liberal. They are afraid, and, I believe, honestly afraid, that the ladies enfranchised under our Bill will turn them out of office and, with them, all their cherished programme of social reform. But they are counting the Tory chickens before they are hatched and protest they will eat them out of house and home. I am not concerned to dispute their figures and calculations, however questionable. They are entitled to their point of view; but it is the point of view of purblind politicians and not that of far-sighted statesmen.

#### The Storm Cone.

These bouncing democrats show little faith in their own speeches or in the large force which they declare to be shaping the future; for if, as Lloyd George told us in his City Temple speech, the storm cone has been hoisted and that we are in for a period of tempest, and that the disturbance is a world-wide one, does he gravely imagine that if the majority of women to whom the vote would be given under our Bill did not vote in the way he wanted that this would be seriously modified; that a few thousand maiden ladies would be capable of riding this whirlwind and directing the storm? He complains that our Bill is not democratic enough. It is the Labour Party, if any party, that stands to lose by an increased Tory vote; it is the small struggling party which puts Socialism on its banner. Yet what has the Labour Party done? Has it stayed to count the votes of maiden ladies? No. It has first regarded justice. (Applause.) While Lloyd George and Winston Churchill have been calculating the results to their Party, Mr. Shackleton has brought in this Bill, and the splendid majority it obtained demands that justice be done, even though a party fall. This is a limited Bill; but we did not need Lloyd George and Winston Churchill to tell us that! But the enfranchisement of even one woman would be more politically momentous than the passage of any of these gentlemen's projects. That single vote would for ever sweep away sex as a barrier against Suffrage. Indeed, if I had my way, I would begin by giving the vote to a single woman, just to that woman who, by her splendid zeal, her undoubted talents, and acknowledged political capacity, is most worthy of a vote—need I say Mrs. Humphry Ward? (Laughter.) It is because Suffragists realise the importance of small beginnings that they have accepted our Conciliation Bill with a unanimity baffling to their enemies and surprising even to their friends.

#### Example of Oliver Twist.

What do the long-winded speeches of Lloyd George and Winston Churchill against this Bill amount to? (Voice: *Nothing!*) That it is a Conciliation Bill! They say it does not go far enough. As if a Conciliation Bill could go far enough! As if the object of any compromise was not compromise! Oliver Twist, as we know, asked for more. It is not recorded that he got more, but that the master aimed a blow at Oliver's head, and shrieked loudly for the beadle. Lloyd George and Winston Churchill profess a yearning to give us more. I quite believe them; but when? In some vague to-morrow. But we want it to-day; and what assurance have we that these gentlemen will be in power to-morrow, or that the Lords will be out of power? No, we prefer a bird in the hand to two mocking birds in the Cabinet. In that the Conciliation Bill is beyond further conciliation just because it is a Conciliation Bill we shall cling to every letter and comma of it. If Messrs. Lloyd George and Churchill can find a way of broadening our Bill without narrowing its chances, so much the better. We are sweetly reasonable.

#### The Sword.

Mr. Asquith is not blind to the consequences of his obstinacy, and in his last speech in the House on this very subject he solemnly warned the women against taking up arms, and proceeded to quote Scripture to the effect that "they that take up the sword shall perish by the sword!" Well, we know who can quote Scripture for his own purpose; but I doubt if Scripture has ever been quoted with such ludicrous inaptness. For what is this sword that you women are taking up? What are these militant tactics so portentous for the Prime Minister? He cannot object to your fighting against him at bye-elections; for that is a recognised legitimate mode of opposition. He cannot mean interruptions by questions; for that has always been a feature of British politics. The only new feature is the brutal militancy of the Liberal men, the hysteria into which the sight or sound of a woman throws them. He cannot object to the new threatened campaign of "No Votes, No Taxes," for since the days of John Hampden that has always been regarded as a legitimate political weapon. He cannot be denouncing the old English right to insist on presenting a petition against grievances? To describe a petition as a sword cannot be justified apart from a few technical assaults, which can be counted on the fingers of one hand. What is the sword that he refers to? Altogether they have not wrought so much harm as the motor car conveying Mr. Asquith's detectives which ran over an old man the other day! Nor can you mention the incidents of your whole campaign with those in a single strike of miners in Mr. Lloyd George's country.

What is this sword that Mr. Asquith refers to? This militancy has not been a militancy of criminal intent, but a militancy of suffering which meant the prison and the hospital, the hunger strike and torture of forcible feeding. These are its weapons, and they are more terrible than swords. Mr. Churchill understands this, if Mr. Asquith does not, for he designed to blunt your weapons. He provided your prisons with those comforts which male politicians have carefully provided against their own contingencies. You are to be first-class misdeameanants. Mr. Churchill, by thus drawing the sting from your suffering would weaken you far more than by voting against the Conciliation Bill.



## SIR EDWARD GREY ON THE BILL.

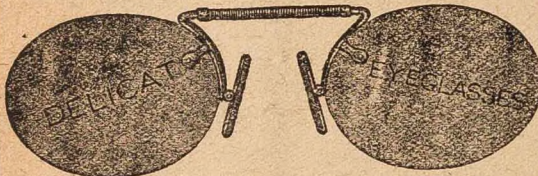
In the course of his reply to a deputation of women Suffragists from the Berwick division, received at the Foreign Office last Saturday, Sir Edward Grey pointed out that as the Government were divided on the question he could give no promise that the Bill could be taken up.

One thing he said was clear. If the Conciliation Bill was to go into committee it must be so drawn to be open to amendment, and that, he understood, was accepted by the promoters of the Bill. For his own part he could not believe that all the strictures passed upon the Conciliation Bill as an undemocratic measure were justified. He was impressed with the fact that the Labour party brought the Bill forward, and he was convinced that it was a democratic measure, which was likely to be of great advantage to women, especially to those who had to work for their own livelihood. He thought more progress had been made than really appeared with regard to Women's Suffrage. It did not seem to have been taken seriously before now in the House of Commons.

### No Sex Bar Possible.

We have arrived at a point now (continued Sir Edward Grey) where I think no great electoral reform Bill should be passed without the House of Commons having an opportunity of dealing with Women's Suffrage. That in itself is a distinct advance of opinion. The arguments for Women's Suffrage, in my opinion, are increasing in strength. I can quite understand people saying that public life is a rough sphere which is not suited for women and that they ought to remain outside it. That is an intelligible position, at all events; but hardly anybody takes up that position to-day. On the contrary, women are being invited and encouraged more and more to take part in public work. I think it is impossible that they can be denied, taking part as they do, and being recognised and encouraged in assisting in public work. I do not think it can be contended that there should be a sex bar which is to keep women entirely outside the vote. Great progress has been made in making the question a serious one. I can give no promise with regard to facilities.

## WHY WEAR HEAVY EYEGLASSES?



The "DELICAT" Invisible Eyeglasses are the daintiest and lightest eye wear yet manufactured, being suitable for all forms of lenses, including Astigmatic; the mounts are self-adjusting, consequently the lenses always set in a horizontal position before the eyes.

COMPLETE WITH LENSES IN ROLLED GOLD 17/6; IN GOLD 25/-  
Orders by post should be accompanied with an old pair of spectacles or eyeglasses, together with Cheque or M.O., crossed " & Co."

**P. A. PRESTON,** Eyesight Specialist,  
130, HIGH HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C.

Estab. 1850. Floral Artists to H.R.H. The Princess Christian. Phone 2324 Padd.

## CHARLES WOOD & SON

(Successor CHAS. H. W. WOOD).  
23, HIGH STREET, MANCHESTER SQUARE, LONDON, W.

Every Variety of Floral Work in Town or Country. The Choicest Selection of Cut Flowers and Plants.  
Orders by post receive prompt attention.

Estimates Free. Window Boxes, &c.

### THE COAL STRIKE WILL MAKE COALS DEARER.

Stove Cobbles...18/6 Special House...22/6 Best Household...23/6  
Roaster Nuts...20/ Large Kitchen...19/6 Silkstone.....23/6

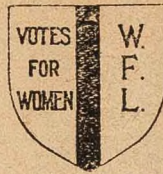
**William CLARKE & SON,**

341, GRAY'S INN ROAD, KING'S CROSS, W.C.  
95, QUEEN'S ROAD, BAYSWATER, W.

Phones: 628 North, 1592 North, 720 Western, 565 Paddington, &c., &c.  
DELIVERIES EVERYWHERE.

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS.

### LONDON.



**DARE TO BE FREE.**

- Wed., Nov. 16.**—A meeting for "Working Mothers" in Dartnell-road Mission Hall, 3.15 p.m.
- Thurs., Nov. 17.**—Lecture Room, Free Library, Lavender-hill. Miss Benett and Dr. Macpherson. Caxton Hall. "At Home," 3 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Billington-Greig, Mrs. How Martyn. 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, 6.45 p.m. London Branches Council.
- Fri., Nov. 18.**—Lavender Hill, 7.30 p.m.; Winders - road, Battersea. Mrs. Reader and others. At 3 p.m., a Drawing-room Meeting at Mrs. Ridley's, 53, Dingwall-road, Croydon. Stamford Hill, Northfield College, 8 p.m. Mrs. How Martyn.
- Sat., Nov. 19.**—Taybridge-road, Lavender Hill. Mrs. Duval and others. Miss Mary Pearson's, 57, Selhurst-road, South Norwood, 7 p.m. Miss Muriel Matters. 683, High-road, Tottenham. Whist Drive. Tickets, 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d.
- Mon., Nov. 21.**—Melvin-road Schoolroom, 8.15 p.m. Miss Ethel Fenning's. Mossbury-road, Lavender-Hill. Mrs. Duval and others.
- Tues., Nov. 22.**—Needlework Party at Mrs. Labrousse's at 2.45 p.m. Clapham Branch, Lecture Room, Free Library, Battersea. Address by Miss A. Hurst at 8 p.m.
- Wed., Nov. 23.**—Free Library, Lavender Hill, 3 p.m. Mrs. H. W. Nevinson.
- Thurs., Nov. 24.**—Caxton Hall. "At Home," 3 p.m. Miss Cicely Hamilton and Mrs. Sadd Brown.

### PROVINCES.

- Sun., Nov. 20.**—Co-operative Hall, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 6.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard.
- Mon., Nov. 21.**—Afternoon: W. Hartlepool, Mrs. Despard.
- Tues., Nov. 22.**—Westcott House, John-street, Sunderland, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard. 8 p.m., Mrs. Despard.
- Wed., Nov. 23.**—Congregational Hall, South Shields. Mrs. Despard. 7.30 p.m.: Mrs. Despard, Miss Manning, B.A., the Rev. W. Woods.
- Thurs., Nov. 24.**—52, Northumberland-street, Newcastle, 3 p.m. Mrs. Despard. Geographical Institute, Newcastle, 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard, Miss Manning, B.A., Mrs. Coates Hansen.
- Frid., Nov. 25.**—St. Owen's Hall, Tynemouth, 3 p.m. Mrs. Despard. 7.30 p.m.: Mrs. Despard, Miss Manning, B.A., Mrs. Binks.
- Sat., Nov. 26.**—Afternoon: Victoria Hall, South Shields. Mrs. Despard.
- Sun., Nov. 27.**—6.30 p.m.: Victoria Hall, South Shields. Mrs. Despard.
- Tues., Nov. 29.**—Cheltenham. Sale of Work and a Social, opened by the Mayoress, 3.30. Speaker: Miss Anna Munro.

### WALES.

- Thurs., Nov. 17.**—Aberdare. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Sidley.
- Frid., Nov. 18.**—Carnarvon. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Sidley.
- Sat., Nov. 19.**—Carnarvon.
- Mon., Nov. 21.**—Bangor. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Sidley.
- Tues., Nov. 22.**—Public Hall, Newtown, 8 p.m. Chair: Miss Alix M. Clark. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Sidley.
- Wed., Nov. 23.**—Town Hall, Llanfyllin, 8 p.m. Chair: Miss Alex. M. Clark. Mrs. Cleeves, Miss Sidley.
- Thurs., Nov. 24.**—Town Hall, Montgomery.
- Frid., Nov. 25.**—Assembly Rooms, Welshpool.
- Mon., Nov. 28.**—Ivy Lodge, Caldicot. Social Gathering, 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. D. A. Thomas, Miss Sidley.

### SCOTLAND.

#### EDINBURGH.

- Sat., Nov. 19.**—Castle-terrace, 7.30 p.m., open-air meeting.
- Sun., Nov. 20.**—Graham-street Hall, 6.30 p.m. Joint debate with Jewish Literary Society. Leader for W.F.L., Miss A. B. Jack; seconder, Mrs. Bell.
- Tues., Nov. 22.**—Suffrage Shop, 23, Forrest-road, 8 p.m.
- Wed., Nov. 23.**—"John Stuart Mill." Parish Councillor Easson.