

THE VOTE.
February 27, 1914.
ONE PENNY.

4-3-14
"WAIT AND SEE!"

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

VOL. IX. NO. 227.

[Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.]

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1914.

Edited by C. DESPARD.

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

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OUR POINT OF VIEW.

What to Do with Him.

Miss Anderson kindly sends us the following letter in continuation of her plea that Mr. Jeffereys, the magistrate, is not as black as we painted him. We willingly give Miss Anderson the opportunity to put her point, as she most eloquently does, without further comment for the present save that we shall watch to see what time elapses before the child is discharged from the infirmary, which we continue to believe is a far more improper place for his temporary detention than any truant school:

Dear Madam,—*Re* the Acton case. Judging from your comments on my letter in THE VOTE of February 21, I think you are not aware of all the facts in the matter. For instance, you speak of the application to the school medical authorities as "premature and officious." But the case was already in their hands. When the mother requested the boy's admission to school, he was examined by the school medical officer in accordance with the regulations, and was certified as mentally and morally unfit for school. The mother was told that till April 1 there was no law under which the education authority had power to deal with the case, but that she would be helped in every way possible to get the boy to a voluntary Home for such cases. After the Mental Deficiency Act became law there might be a chance to get the boy to a Home through the education authority, but at present the number of such institutions is very limited. The authorities were meanwhile searching for a vacancy in a voluntary Home.

Your remark that it was the magistrate's duty to commit the boy to a truant school overlooks the fact that a magistrate cannot send a mentally deficient child to a truant school—it is illegal; and if it were not, to send a child incapable of receiving any benefit from ordinary educational methods to a school where the teachers are not trained in the handling of such mental cripples and where the other children are not equally handicapped, would be condemned by everyone who knows anything of mental disease. If the magistrate had illegally committed the child, he would have come up for medical examination before admission—as is the invariable routine—and been refused as a "mental and moral defective," and therefore unsuitable for any school not specially intended for cases such as his.—Yours very truly,
MARY ANDERSON.

Calladh-mu-Sith, Woldingham, February 22.

Another letter on the subject has been received, which will be published next week.

We should, however, be glad to know what provision will exist, on April 1, when the Mental Deficiency Act comes into force, for the segregation of such children if none exists now. And we do not ask this in scorn, but in a genuine desire for information on this most important subject, which is one all women will be most deeply concerned to watch and inquire into.

The Favoured Sex.

Miss Olive Hocken and Miss Rachel Peace served weary month after weary month in gaol for arson, and their "crimes" have made text for many a solemn sermon and denunciation on the necessity for punishing such wicked and evil-disposed people—"mad women," "wild women," unsexed, unbalanced creatures. We call pointed attention, therefore, to sentences recently passed at the Staffordshire Assizes, in cases of strikers from the works of Messrs. Kenrich, in the Black Country. After a meeting at which their grievances were aired, John Swain and Horace Clarke, among others, proceeded to the works and deliberately set fire to a shed containing timber, the damage being estimated at over £1,800. The prisoners were sentenced to one month's hard labour, less than was formerly given to Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, and other women for exercising the rights of citizens in respect of deputations and petitions to the Government. But this is not all. A certain number of women who make it their business to protest in churches have been denounced in unmeasured terms. Nevertheless, when Mr. Edwards rose up on Sunday in the church of St. Nicholas, Strood, and made a personal attack on the Bishop of Rochester as he mounted the pulpit, protesting against his "preaching God's Holy Word" while he had "malice in his heart," the Bishop assured him that he had made his protest, "and made it in a

very orderly way. I thoroughly believe in your sincerity and in the sincerity of those acting with you"; and refused to allow him to be turned out. How different it is when something is done to get something for men and when the same thing is done to get something for women! We hope our fellow-workers in another society will take note that the Bishop described this form of protest as "orderly." Now what has the Press to say?

An Injured Person.

Lord Weardale, the gentleman unfortunately mistaken for Mr. Asquith—whose egregious anti-Suffrage views he shares—will be remembered as presiding over the Universal Races' Congress in 1911. The fine speech on behalf of Women's Rights made by Professor Margoliouth was the occasion for a great deal of angry protest from Lord Weardale's friends in the hall, who condoled with his lordship at having, with his "well-known views," to listen to the point of view of someone who disagreed with him! This arrogance, however, gave Miss Boyle an opportunity of addressing the Conference, and pointing out the impertinence of assuming that any world movement could be brought to success without the woman's point of view being sought and considered—"not only without impatience, but without condescension."

Miss L. K. Yates' Reminders.

Once more Miss Keyser Yates has done good service by a recent article in *The Queen*. Her topic still is Local Government reform, and the work women may do, and have done. She points out that although the orders in regard to Poor-law institutions which come into force on March 31 leave much to be desired,—the mixed workhouse remains, there is no time-limit set to hours of work, and no public access to the decisions of house committees,—yet something has been accomplished. After March 31, 1915, no Poor-law child, except in special cases, is to be detained in a workhouse for more than six weeks, but is to be drafted to a suitable establishment for its well-being and education. It was on this subject that the first woman's deputation was received by a Minister of State, when Miss Preusser, of Windermere, called the attention of the Cabinet to the condition of the workhouse children in 1869. Miss Mary Carpenter, a generation ago, also dealt with the matter in a paper read before a Science Association in Dublin.

Other provisions are that infants of under- and children over eighteen months be medically examined every fortnight or every month, and that their dietary be suited to their appetite. Miss Davenport Hill long ago unearthed the case of a child of three who had been four months in the workhouse before it was discovered, quite by accident, that it could not speak. A further provision, that a trained superintendent nurse, and a trained midwife be on the staff of each workhouse, shows how miserably deficient the arrangements have hitherto been; and when we reflect that Louisa Twining and Florence Nightingale both agitated, uselessly, for years, for this reform, the need of Votes for Women becomes more and more obvious.

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WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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VOTE Street Sales Organiser—Miss P. LEAHY.

MILITANT POLICY OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

The question is frequently asked, What is the actual policy of the Women's Freedom League, and how do we stand with regard to militancy? It may be well at this critical moment to make our position perfectly clear.

We are militant, and in so far our methods differ from those of the constitutional Suffragists. We believe that there have been moments in the history of every nation when laws had to be broken in order to prove that they harked behind the conscience of the people. That the law which prevents woman from taking her place as citizen is unjust and tyrannous we believe, and therefore we are in rebellion against a Government that refuses to give the nation an opportunity to redress that injustice. Therefore, we resist taxation, we refuse to submit to the Insurance Act, we make protests in public places against the orders of authorities; we do everything we can to emphasize our conviction that we are being treated as outlaws.

But we use no violence, and we do not, at any time or in any way, either damage private property or inflict suffering and loss on our fellow citizens.

This, briefly, is our policy. I wish also to make it perfectly clear that it is adopted by the whole of the League, and has not been imposed upon it by its leaders. Over and over again, in our yearly conferences, two resolutions have been passed by large majorities—that we ourselves shall abstain from violence, and that we shall not criticise those who follow other methods.

C. DESPARD.

ORGANISERS—£500 WANTED!

Within the last fortnight we have been doing excellent work in two London By-election campaigns. In each case our action has been directed against the Government because of its denial of justice to women. In Bethnal Green the electorate rejected the Government nominee, although he had but recently been raised to Cabinet rank, and in Poplar the Government candidate was returned with a greatly reduced majority. We have proved that where we have organisers, and a good band of workers, our efforts are crowned with success. We must make clear to the men electors that it is to the advantage of the country that they should demand Woman's Political Enfranchisement, and we have a splendid opportunity of doing so between now and the General Election if we are enabled to send more organisers into various districts. We therefore confidently appeal to our readers to relieve us of our present monetary anxiety by sending us *at once* a donation towards the £500 Organisers' Fund, of which we are in urgent and immediate need.

E. KNIGHT.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

AT HEADQUARTERS. LONDON MEETINGS.

Discussion Meeting.—Next Monday evening, at 1, Robert-street, Dr. C. V. Drysdale will give an address on "The Population Question and Women's Suffrage." All interested in this matter are very cordially invited to attend and to take part in the discussion following Dr. Drysdale's lecture. The chair will be taken at 8 o'clock.

Caxton Hall Meetings.—Next Wednesday afternoon we shall have the pleasure of again listening to Mr.

J. Cameron Grant, who has chosen as the title of his address, "Thou Shalt Not Steal." Mr. Cameron Grant is such a staunch friend of our Cause that we feel sure that this announcement will be sufficient to bring a good audience to Caxton Hall next Wednesday. The chair will be taken at 3.30 p.m. by Mrs. Huntsman. The following Wednesday, March 11, our principal speaker will be Mrs. Margaret Wynne Nevinson, the subject of her address being "The Past, Present and Future of the Woman's Movement."

Friday Evening, March 6, we are having a special political meeting in the Council Chamber, Caxton Hall, the speakers being Miss Nina Boyle and Mr. George Lansbury. Admission is free, but a few tickets for reserved seats can be obtained from this office at 1s. each. We urge our friends to come early. The chair will be taken promptly at 8 o'clock by Mrs. Schofield Coates.
F. A. UNDERWOOD.

BY-ELECTIONS.

South Bucks.

Mr. W. B. Du Pre, Unionist 9,044
Mr. Tomman Mosley, Liberal 6,713

Unionist majority 2,331
Last election, December, 1910. Unionist unopposed.

South-West Bethnal Green.

Sir Matthew Wilson, Unionist 2,828
Mr. C. F. G. Masterman, Liberal 2,804
Mr. J. Scurr, Socialist 316

Unionist majority 24
Last election, July, 1911. Mr. Masterman returned by majority of 184.

Poplar.

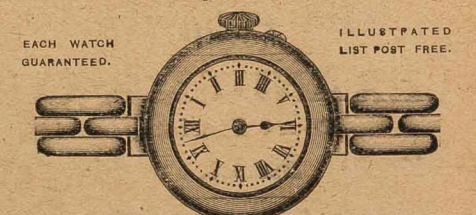
Mr. A. W. Yeo, Liberal 3,548
Mr. R. K. Clark, Unionist 3,270
Mr. Jack Jones, Socialist 893

Liberal majority over Unionist 278
December, 1910, Mr. Sydney Buxton returned by majority of 1,829.

The results of the three by-elections must be considered in the main highly satisfactory to Suffragists. In a stronghold of anti-suffragism such as South Bucks undoubtedly was supposed to be, a strong impression was made; and the Tax Resistance protest of Mrs. Sargent Florence on the last day of the election, at which the Freedom League workers joined forces with the Women's Tax Resistance League, was better attended and more appreciated than on any previous occasion. We have to give our warmest thanks to Mrs. Sargent Florence for her hospitality and support during the contest. That the Liberal poll increased so slightly, in spite of the prolonged and bitter labour difficulties in which the district was involved, is some proof of the usefulness of our Anti-Government campaign.

At Bethnal Green the electioneering tactics of the Government proved vain. For the second time, an

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actual bribe was dangled before a dissatisfied electorate on the occasion of a Parliamentary contest; without success. Mr. John Scurr's valiant intervention kept the Liberal out effectually; and Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Tippett, Miss Boyle, and Miss Read conducted a swift and effective campaign which secured an amount of concentrated attention, very hopeful in so sad and saddening a district.

Poplar was worked by Miss Smith, Miss Trott, and Miss Read, with the assistance of some of the speakers already mentioned. Towards the last night the fun waxed fast and furious, and election proceedings degenerated into something more resembling a circus or a variety show—the new note in election contests. The militant Suffragists and the societies in sympathy with them organised a procession, which appeared to be one of the most popular items on the programme, and was joined in with fervour by numbers of the local population. A joint platform contained Mr. Lansbury, Miss Sylvia Pankhurst, Miss Boyle, Mrs. Ayrton Gould, and others, and a huge audience listened and applauded vehemently, introducing as a genial pleasantry the "mysterious disappearance" of the adjoining Free Trade platform. The Liberals had rigged this up with much taste, but the pretty, decorated kiosk came to pieces like a house of cards, and vanished from sight like a conjuring trick in less than two minutes.

The following letter was received by Miss Smith from the kind sympathisers who gave us house-room:—

DEAR MISS SMITH,—We would be most thankful if you would convey to the Women's Freedom League our most sincere thanks for the honour accorded us during the past week in having your Committee-rooms at this address. We also desire to tender our most sincere thanks to yourself and your lady assistants for your great kindness to us during your stay with us. The result of the poll for Mr. Jack Jones has proved that your most arduous week has been of good service to Poplar. We have had many applications from young ladies who are in sympathy with the Women's Freedom League, and we should be pleased if you could advise us, the place, &c., where we could advise them to join, and we shall be only too pleased to inform them. Re the Poplar Public Library, we shall do as you request and secure other householders in the neighbourhood to help us, as there is no reason why THE VOTE should not be included for the use of the general public. We hope that our applications for such will be successful. In concluding we may say that we are very pleased to have been of some little service to the Women's Freedom League, and hope to have the honour of doing so at some future time.

The following letter was sent to all three candidates:—
W.F.L. Committee Room, 140, East India Dock-road, Poplar, E.
February 16, 1914.

SIR,—Would you kindly inform me, as an organiser of the Women's Freedom League, whether:—

- 1) You will advocate Votes for Women in your election speeches;
- 2) You will, if returned to Parliament, vote for any measure which will extend the Franchise to women; and
- 3) You will vote against any Franchise Bill that does not include women?—Yours faithfully,

M. KATHARINE TROTT.

Mr. Yeo did not condescend to reply. Mr. Kerr Clark was reported to have alluded favourably to the Women's Freedom League at one of his meetings, and to have expressed himself as supporting the points raised. Mr. Jack Jones alone replied to the letter, pledging himself fully to the support of the women.

The energy displayed by Miss Smith and Miss Trott in speaking, billing, chalking and working at the Com-

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mittee-rooms was untiring; Miss Read spoke three and four times a day; and whole-hearted assistance was given by Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Mustard, Mrs. Tippett, Miss Reeves, Miss James, Miss Addams, Miss M. Dyne, and Miss R. Holmes.

Leith Burghs.

Candidates—

Mr. G. W. Currie, Unionist.
Provost Malcolm Smith, Liberal.
Mr. J. N. Bell, Labour.

38, Kirkgate, Leith.

During the past week the Women's Freedom League has been hard at work in the Leith Burghs By-election. No opportunity has been lost to place before the electorate the betrayal of the women by this so-called Liberal Government. Splendid dinner-hour meetings have been held each day at all the important works and at the dock gates; Musselburgh, Portobello and Newshaven have been visited, and in each place the speakers and workers have been welcomed by very attentive and appreciative audiences. The speakers for the week have been Miss Alexia B. Jack, Miss MacLachlan, Mrs. Thomson, Mrs. Bell, Miss MacLennan, and Miss A. Broughton.

Polling at Leith Burghs took place yesterday. A Liberal majority of 1,785 had to be combatted.

A Regrettable Incident.

Statements from Mr. Bell, the Labour candidate at Leith, published in the last issue of THE VOTE, convey the impression that Mr. Bell refused to press for a Government measure of Women's Suffrage, which, rather naturally, caused much indignation locally among Freedom League workers. *The Daily Citizen* denounced Miss Jack's version of Mr. Bell's answers as a "lie," suggesting that it was circulated with the object of injuring his candidature. How that would have advantaged the Freedom League or the Cause, or the policy of keeping the Liberal out, *The Daily Citizen* did not deign to explain. Miss Jack, justly annoyed that this statement should have been published without any attempt to discover whether there had been a mistake, visited Mr. Bell's committee-rooms, and met with a rather cavalier reception at the hands of Mr. Peters, the Labour agent. This gentleman coolly informed Miss Jack that a letter had been sent to her explaining the mistake, which was one made by his own typist and signed by Mr. Peters himself. No blame, apparently, attaches to Mr. Bell, whose assurance was intended to be that he would, if elected, press for a Government measure. Mr. Peters has made no apology to Miss Jack.

This discourtesy on the part of Mr. Peters has been matched by *The Daily Citizen*, which has refrained from publishing the correspondence on the subject sent by Miss Jack. To accuse the Edinburgh Branch of circulating a lie about Mr. Bell, and to refuse to publish the actual fact, that a mistake was made in Mr. Bell's office, does not seem to be in accordance with the game. The Press, however, of all shades of opinion, has its own ideas of fairness, of which our readers can judge for themselves.

ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Master Keys. By Capt. Walter Carey, R.N. (Is. To be obtained at the Offices of the Women's Freedom League, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London.)

When so many redundant books are written, it is a pleasure to come across one which is a real Sign Post pointing the way which an increasing number of people are anxious to find. This is the case with Captain Walter Carey's *Master Keys*. The plan of the book is an exposition of life from the point of view of a Theosophist and so succinctly is the case stated that the veriest tyro in the subject cannot fail to understand its meaning. The preface is a beautiful little allegory which must at least make all readers pause to think whether or not their lives are taking the right direction.

Dealing with "The Key to Understanding," Captain Carey says it is to be found not by merely believing things because they are orthodox, but by testing them and recognising truth even when it appears in a new garb. In "The Key to Happiness," he discusses the law of Karma, the law that is expressed in the words, "Whatsoever a man soweth that shall he reap." "The Key to Life" shows how to improve our physical, astral and mental bodies, and how our auras are affected by our thoughts and emotions. "The Key of Death" does not open the gate of death because that gate does not exist; it opens the gate to a wider life. Other keys are the "Key to the Purpose of the Animal Creation," "The Key to Health," in which a strong case is made for vegetarianism and anti-vivisection, and "The Key of Progress," in which Captain Carey points out, among other gems of wisdom, that "A kindly joke is often more effective than the most reasonable arguments." This excellent and entertaining book should be purchased by all who wish to find answers to many perplexing present-day problems.
C. E. A.

THE COMING RACE.*

THE NEED FOR THE EQUAL CO-OPERATION OF MAN AND WOMAN.

[CONCLUDED.]

We see a danger in the present apotheosis of Domestic Science. The cooking classes and schools of housewifery have by no means been an unmixed blessing to girls. We have sometimes harboured a suspicion that the insistence on this side of a girl's education is not entirely inspired by consideration for the well-being of the girl's future husband and family. We have heard these institutions recommended in connection with what is known politely as "The Servant Problem." We are of opinion that these subjects should be optional, and that the element of compulsion defeats its own end. We discover a fallacy underlying the statement of the Doctor who considers that—

It is relatively unimportant that the girl, who ordinarily would become the mother of children who will grow up to be manual workers, should have a first-class knowledge of history or grammar, but it is essential that she should be taught how best to maintain the health of her future family.

The same kind of objection could be applied indefinitely to almost every educational system from the Kindergarten to the University, and seems to betoken a misunderstanding as to the object of education. We have no quarrel with those philanthropic employers who insist that their young employees, of both sexes, should attend Continuation Classes, as long as they make time for them to do so during work hours, but we think they take too intimate a view of their duties when they set themselves to prepare their girl workers for marriage, by insisting on their attendance at cooking classes, &c. We see no reason why the girls should have to learn laundry work or dressmaking when they would prefer to learn French or type-writing. We believe also that it is entirely untrue that industrial or professional work unfits a woman for domestic life. The regularity of her life before marriage makes the organisation of her home, be it large or small, easier afterwards, while, in the home, as well as outside of it, the cultivation of her general intelligence is of more importance than a narrow specialisation.

Unfortunately, as yet the influence of women on the Education Authorities is not an extensive one. In the main, the education of the country is directed by men. We have to insist that the girls shall receive, equally with the boys, a sound mental training. It is more important both to themselves and to the community, that the personality of women should be enriched and their lives be made more complete, rather than they should figure as good cooks and good laundry hands. The more their brains are developed, the better will be their specialised work. We have always to oppose that spirit in man, which tends to make him regard woman as "the female of the species" rather than as a sentient human being who belongs to herself. The suggestion has already been made that, with the raising of the school age—a reform which has been long overdue—a large proportion of the added year, or years, of the girl's school life should be devoted to Domestic Science. It is by no means only men who advocate this specialisation. One woman speaker instances the conditions in Glasgow as worthy of imitation. She says that in the Glasgow schools, during the last two years of a girl's school life, four and a half days a week are spent in learning cookery, laundry, needlework and dressmaking, and that, unless a certain standard is reached, attendance at evening classes is compulsory. It is difficult to believe that the speaker was not misinformed. (See page 179.) What has been said of the teaching of Domestic Science applies with equal truth to the teach-

* "Rearing an Imperial Race." Containing a full Report of the Second Guildhall School Conference on Diet, Cookery and Hygiene, with Diaries; Special Reports from H.M. Ambassadors Abroad, Articles on Children's Food Requirements, Clothing, &c. Edited by Charles E. Hecht, M.A. Published by the St. Catherine Press.

ing of what, we believe, is known as "mothercraft." We believe that, except for girls who are training to be children's nurses, and regard this as a career, such teaching is quite unnecessary. A time comes in a woman's life—during the three-quarters of a year when she knows she will be a mother—when she is really interested and grateful for such teaching. To teach small girls to dress and undress a baby, in which they cannot be supposed to feel any but a very perfunctory interest, would surely be sufficient to substantiate a charge of cruelty if the immature being were a puppy or a kitten instead of a baby, while all they can learn from a dummy baby is scarcely worth learning.

But the most important of the lessons which we gather from the Report is that of the need for women in public life. There is need for the work of women of leisure on the Education Authorities, both as elected and co-opted members, as School Managers and as Members of Care Committees, School Clinics, &c. In the list of the Recommendations of the recent Departmental Committee of the Home Office on Reformatory and Industrial Schools, which affect 15,000 boys and girls, we are glad to find one to the effect that the committees of all schools, both those for boys as well as those for girls, should have women members. Great emphasis is laid upon the need for the work of women in connection with public health. There is a large sphere for the professional work of women in such positions as that of School Nurse and Health Visitor, while it would clearly be an advantage, as suggested in the Report, for the School Attendance Officer to be a Nurse. The scope for the work of women doctors is unlimited, and it is to be regretted that the community do not insist that their services should be utilised to their full extent. The work of educated and specially trained women is needed in institutions as matrons and housekeepers.

"I wish," said the old Queen, of Florence Nightingale, "we had her at the War Office. Such a clear head!" Many a State Department and State institution would be all the better for the working of the clear head of a woman. Women are doing excellent public work with but scant encouragement. But, compared to the harvest, the labourers are few. They are needed, not only as specialists to give their advice as to clean table cloths or the cooking of carrots—they are needed for their larger human qualities, their intelligence, their understanding, their sympathy, and their sense of social service. With the raising of the status of women, which must necessarily be one of the results of the conferring of the Parliamentary vote, will come a broadening and a deepening of their influence, which cannot but show itself in greater care for the weak and defenceless members of the community, in more thoroughness of purpose, in less of the haphazard patchwork of the male politician, in a clearer sense of relative values and proportion.

The women of the Suffrage Movement have no ambition to "rear an Imperial Race" that they may man Dreadnoughts. Their desire is to rear a race keen-eyed and broad-shouldered, with developed brains and large hearts, mind and body alike trained for the work of life—a race who, one by one, will fall into the places which we shall leave vacant, and, with their added powers, will carry on the work of this generation, "striving, with whatsoever pain and labour needs must be, to build up, little by little, the new day of fellowship, and rest, and happiness."
E. M. N. C.

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POLITICAL NEWS.

Mr. Asquith's Answer to the Northern Men.

Mr. J. Wilson M'Laren, Edinburgh, has received the following letter from the Prime Minister's private secretary:—

"I am desired by the Prime Minister to acknowledge receipt of the memorial from the Northern Men's Federation for Women's Suffrage, which you were good enough to leave at his official residence.

"Mr. Asquith has studied the memorial with care, but has been unable to discover any arguments in favour of woman's suffrage which he has not dealt with in his speeches—

"(1) In reply to the large women's suffrage deputation which waited on him at Downing-street;

"(2) In the House of Commons on the withdrawal of the Franchise and Registration Bill; and

"(3) On Mr. Dickinson's Suffrage Bill, his speeches to which I am instructed to refer you, are to be found in reports given by the *Times* newspaper on November 18, 1911, January 23, 1913, and May 7, 1913. The Prime Minister can find no reason for changing the position which he took up in the speeches, and to arguments and answers which they contain he has nothing to add.—Yours faithfully, G. D. PINSENT.

Liberal By-Election Losses.

The following table shows the by-election lost by the Liberals since the Insurance campaign began in November, 1911. The Bow and Bromley defeat is not included, as Mr. Lansbury opposed the Act:—

	Liberal majority.	Unionist became majority.
Oldham	3,668	1,632
S. Somerset .. .	467	148
N. Ayrshire .. .	854	271
S. Manchester ..	2,452	579
Crewe	1,704	966
N.W. Manchester	445	1,202
Midlothian .. .	3,157	32
Newmarket .. .	399	51
Reading	99	1,131
S. Lanark .. .	1,197	251
S.W. Bethnal Green	184	24

Votes for Women in South Africa: Defeated by One Vote.

The Women's Enfranchisement Bill introduced by Mr. Wyndham in the House of Assembly, Capetown, was negated on the first reading by 43 votes to 42.

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Swan & Edgar

THE LEADING WEST END DRAPERS,
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Read a First Time.

Among the Bills presented to Parliament and read a first time this week are the following:—

Lord Ninian Crichton-Stuart (Cardiff, Opp.).—Bill to provide for the enfranchisement of leaseholds.

Sir A. Williamson (Elgin and Nairn, Min.).—Bill to facilitate the recording of votes at Parliamentary elections by fishermen, sailors, and other persons liable to habitual absence from their usual residence in pursuit of their calling.

Mr. A. Henderson (Durham, Barnard Castle, Lab.).—Bill, to extend the Parliamentary franchise to men and women, and to amend the registration and electoral system.

Mr. J. W. Hills (Durham, Opp.).—Bill to extend the qualification for being elected on county and borough councils.

Cat and Mouse Act: Releases and Rearrests.

Mr. McKenna informed Mr. Wedgwood (R., Newcastle-under-Lyme) that forty-three women had been released under the Prisoners (Temporary Discharge for Ill-Health) Act. Of these seventeen were not rearrested; one voluntarily returned to prison; eight have been rearrested once, ten twice, one three times, four four times, and two five times. The number of men released under the Act was six. Of these three had been rearrested. One had been rearrested once, and two twice.

The London Graduates' Union for Woman Suffrage.

The Union has memorialised the Prime Minister on behalf of Woman Suffrage and urged the need for the introduction of a Government measure. Among the distinguished signatories are:

President: Alfred Caldecott, D.Lit., D.D., Dean of King's College, London; Vice-Presidents: Louisa Brandreth Aldrich-Blake, M.D., M.S.Lond., Senior Surgeon New Hospital for Women; Ronald M. Burrows, D. Litt. Oxford, Principal of King's College, London; John Cockburn, M.D.; Ernest A. Gardner, Litt. D., Yates Professor of Archaeology and Dean of the Faculty of Arts in the University of London; W. D. Halliburton, M.D., LL.D., B.Sc., F.R.S., Professor of Physiology and Dean of Medical Faculty, University of London, King's College; Ellen C. Higgins, B.A. Lond., Principal of Royal Holloway College; Hilda D. Oakley, M.A. McGill, Warden of King's College for Women and Lecturer in Philosophy; J. G. Robertson, M.A., B.Sc., Ph.D., Professor of German, University of London; Mary Scharlieb, M.D., M.S.Lond.; Margaret Tuke, M.A., Principal of Bedford College for Women; H. H. Turner, D.Sc., D.C.L., F.R.S., Savilian Professor of Astronomy, Oxford, Member corresp. de l'Institut de France; Chairman of Committee: Helen C. I. Gwynne-Vaughan, D.Sc. Lond., Head of the department of Botany in Birkbeck College; Vice-Chairman: Adeline Mary Roberts, M.D., B.S., Ophthalmic Surgeon to the South London Hospital for Women and Women's Hospital for Children; Hon. Treasurer: Marian Busk, B.Sc. Lond.; Hon. Secretaries: Harriette Chick, D.Sc., Assistant, Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine; David Owen, B.Sc. Lond., B.A. Cantab., Lecturer in Physics, Birkbeck College; Jessie Warham Scott, M.A. Lond.

Six Suffragists Arrested.

On Tuesday evening, Mr. Laurence Housman, Mr. H. W. Nevinson, Mr. H. D. Harben, Mr. F. Meynell, Mrs. D. A. Thomas, and Miss Katherine Haig were arrested for attempting to hold a meeting in Old Palace Yard, Westminster. They were members of a deputation, which Mr. Asquith refused to receive, to protest against forcible feeding and the operation of the "Cat and Mouse" Act. Three members handed their petition to a private secretary at 10, Downing-street, and expressed great dissatisfaction with Mr. Asquith's treatment. They marched down Whitehall and, from the statue of Richard I., addressed the crowd. For refusing to desist they were arrested, and were sentenced at Bow-street the following morning: Mr. F. Meynell, 40s. fine for assaulting the police; the rest were ordered to be bound over in the sum of £5 to be of good behaviour for six months. All refused.

THE "DAUGHTERS OF ISHMAEL," WHICH THE PIONEER PLAYERS WILL PRESENT TO THEIR MEMBERS ON MARCH 1, has already been produced in New York, where its appearance was followed by an unsuccessful attempt to prohibit the performance. Though it deals with what is known as the "social evil," the appeal of the play is by no means sensational; and it may be that the action of the authorities was prompted, less by dislike of its theme, than by a natural objection to its exposure of the methods of the New York police. The heroine of the piece will be played by an American—Miss Marjorie Patterson—and Mr. Raymond Lauzerte as a foreign "cadet," to use the trade term, will embody a type which has so far been unrepresented, at least on the English stage. Mr. John Masefield, in an appreciation of the book from which the play was adapted, has expressed the opinion that the type is truly drawn. The performance is open only to members of the Pioneer Players.

A GOOD RECORD.—In celebrating its tenth birthday at the annual dinner a few days ago, the Car and General Insurance Corporation was able to show an excellent record—the best sign of [business] acumen and success. During the ten years of its existence the Corporation has collected more than £2,000,000 in premiums and paid nearly £1,000,000 in claims.

"FAIR EXCHANGE."

The arrival of the Labour deportees from South Africa, and their refusal to land, brought for a few hours a new note into the situation. Where all was tragedy, anger, and suspense, there came a burst of appreciative hilarity, soon subdued, however, when the famous Nine succumbed to the cajoleries of Mr. Henderson and his friends. We wish the Government joy of the choice batch of troublesome "undesirables" which its friend, General Botha, has so thoughtfully shipped to it.

Nevertheless, we think that it is a case of crying quits. "Tit for tat" was ever reckoned fair play; and while we watch the events in which Messrs. Bain and Crawford are playing leading rôles, we must remember that the Government sends its own undesirables to South Africa. We will remember the comments which greeted the arrival on that distant shore of Lord Gladstone, fresh from his humiliating encounters with Militant Suffragettes. We remember the annoyance with which his deportation was greeted in circles both British and Boer. And we feel sure that the irritation will be well maintained when the second undesirable incompetent is shipped off to Table Bay. Mr. Sydney Buxton is, if anything, less competent than Herbert Gladstone. If his record of muddle is not so dramatic, neither is it more satisfactory. The circumstances of the loss of the *Titanic*, the high-souled "I take full responsibility," and the subsequent admission that he had pigeon-holed a special report on the lack of provision for the safety of vessels of heavy tonnage, for which, in the end, he never took any "responsibility" at all, are fresh in the public mind, as is also the little bill the nation had to foot to pay the Attorney-General to shift as much as possible of the "responsibility" on to other shoulders than those of his colleague and employer. Mr. Sydney Buxton not only has borne none of the consequences of his utterly inefficient dealings with trade dangers by land and by sea; he has actually got promotion for them. He is to have a title, and get £11,000 a year as Governor-General of South Africa in succession to his inept colleague, Lord Gladstone. We wish South Africa joy. If she has made Great Britain a dumping ground for those of her citizens that she confesses openly she does not know how to deal with, Great Britain has paid her back in her own coin, and with interest. The Deported Nine are far more welcome here than the dregs of Mr. Asquith's Cabinet to the brainy communities of the Veldt. And if Mr. Asquith will do us one more favour, he will ship off Mr. McKenna as soon as possible. It would do him, and them, a vast deal of good if they could hear some of Mr. Smuts' plain-spoken comments on Liberal Cabinet Ministers.

Apart from the unquestionable propriety of this "fair exchange," the chief questions which the Government's action raises are these: Have Liberal politicians pledged themselves to accept and countenance a policy of coercion, deportation, and the suppression of freedom of speech, of the Press, and of public meeting, aided by Government control of the public services? And have they accepted the principle, on which they always used to fight the Conservatives, of a general scramble for the spoils on the approach of a dissolution? Few Ministers have so lavishly rewarded their following; none has so entirely bolted the principles on which its party stood. And while congratulating the Government on having greatly the advantage of the bargain in the deal in undesirables, we would remind them that though Fair Exchange is no Robbery, they are responsible for other transactions which bear a more sinister name and character. C. NINA BOYLE.

KINGSTON HUMANITARIAN SOCIETY.

At the Fife Hall, Fife-road, Kingston, Miss Anna Munro delivered a very interesting and instructive lecture on "Women of To-day." The Chairman read Mrs. Despard's leading article in THE VOTE and the applause of the audience testified to their sympathy and appreciation of our aims and objects. A very intelligent series of questions and discussion followed. The Society gave a donation to the funds of the League.

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Our stock of Rest Gowns and Negligées is quite unique. We buy all the most exclusive Paris Models and copy and adapt them in our own Workrooms in fashionable materials that we can recommend with the utmost confidence. The shape and finish are invariably excellent. The garment sketched is a typical example:—

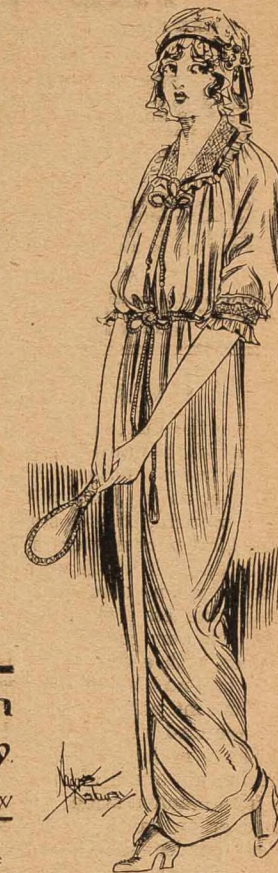
BREAKFAST GOWN, as sketch, in rich crepe de chine, with fine lace collar and cuffs, lined with chiffon in contrasting colour, edged kilted net frill. Waist finished with girdele of rat-tail cord. In all the newest colourings.

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A TRIPLE BILL BY THE M.C.H. DRAMATIC SOCIETY

Remember—

On Tuesday next, March 3, at the Cripplegate Institute, at 8 p.m., will be given the first of the two performances by the M.C.H. Dramatic Society in aid of Mrs. Despard's School Clinic at Nine Elms. For full particulars see page 299.

So far no response has been made to my appeal, sent to the London Branches, that we should take these opportunities of showing our appreciation of the help given to us freely and untringly by our beloved President. It will speak badly for us if both performances are not packed to overflowing; poor houses will spell poor gratitude. Tickets, 3s., 2s., 1s., can be obtained from Miss Shafto, 5, Market-square, Bromley, Kent; as all are numbered and reserved there is an advantage in taking them well beforehand. There are 56 seats at 6d., reserved but not numbered. As you will see from the following information, Cripplegate Institute is not a difficult place to find.

Trains.—Nearest station: Aldersgate-street, two minutes' walk from the Institute. There is a frequent service of Inner Circle and other trains from all parts of London.

Motor-Bus Services.—The following pass the end of Chiswell-street, close to the Institute:—No. 21, via London Bridge to New Cross; No. 43, to and from London Bridge; No. 60, Peckham via London Bridge; No. 70, Victoria via Blackfriars and Waterloo; No. 98, through Peckham, via London Bridge and Camberwell Green. No. 4, via Blackfriars to Tower Bridge, passes the end of Barbican.

Of *Hiawatha* I do not need to speak; you have already seen and expressed your appreciation of the performance. I can promise you an equal pleasure for the "Triple Bill," the items of which have been written by members of the Women's Freedom League. The name of Miss Constance Maud is a guarantee for "something good." K. HARVEY.

THE VOTE.

Proprietors—THE MINERVA PUBLISHING CO., Ltd., 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, W.C.
Secretary—Miss H. HOLMAN.

FRIDAY, February 27, 1914.

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

Offices: 2, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI, W.C.1

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

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

"WAIT AND SEE."

We use the historic phrase which has exasperated so many, which has also hypnotised a few, not because we like it, nor even because we would induce patience in those who, as we have often maintained, are not impatient enough; but to sum up and embody the more or less hidden character of some of the extraordinary phenomena with which we are faced to-day. The time has come when someone should speak with frankness (brutal frankness if they like to call it so) on the things which, for our good no doubt, the party politician surrounds with a dim religious light.

If we had no historic perspective, if we could conceive of the present political situation as having been deliberately planned either by individuals or societies, we would have no hesitation in describing the whole thing as the insane dream of madmen forced by some devil's trick into manifestation.

Consider on one hand the attitude of the two great political parties—blind, majestic, impassive; the one in power prophesying smooth things, the one out of power predicting social and national disaster, yet both ready at any moment to join forces against those in whom are bound up the indispensable realities of our national life—women (mothers and workers) and men the workers. Consider on the other the electorate, consisting for the most part of wage-earners. They begin to see dimly that things are wrong; they are a little alarmed, a little touched; they listen with rapt attention when realities are placed before them. But when the bland party politician pleads, when his flag flaunts upon their pavements and his flaming ear rushes up and down their poor streets, the old glamour seizes them and they vote in their thousands for the "jolly good fellow," Liberal or Tory, who makes so brave a show.

What puzzles us is that comparatively few see now how extraordinarily artificial the whole business is. We remember that when the power of the vote was first placed in the hands of the wage-earners, thoughtful persons belonging to the non-wage-earning class used to say, "We must educate our masters." These persons, whether they liked it or not—and some of them disliked it profoundly—believed that democracy was the word of the future. We go further; we know that if women and men workers, tutored by suffering, made wise by experience, were given their true place in the nation, they would sweep conventions and artificialities aside and begin to build up on a sound basis that which would presently be a real democracy. It is more or less easy to understand, when we look back upon our own tempestuous history, that this is just the difficulty. To timid lawyer-minds like Mr. Asquith's and to persons of extremely limited capacity like his faithful henchman, Mr. McKenna, large horizons are bewildering. The truth is not only that they cannot, they will not see. If they could they would know that they, through their own wilful blindness, are bringing disaster upon themselves and the nation.

Over and over again in the world's history the same tale has been told. From the days of Babel, when the

materialists of that time threatened in their arrogance to conquer heaven, right down through the ages we have had the example of men deriding spiritual forces and being broken against them. Such were the Egyptian Pharaohs. Scorning the dream of a young nation, they issued their vain-glorious mandates. Let the children of Israel continue in servitude; nay, let heavier burdens be put upon them by reason of their aspirations. For slaves such as they are toil is the proper sphere of action. But even for great Pharaoh, because the spirit of liberty was with them, the slaves were too strong, they shook off his bonds; they robbed their masters of their substance; they left the fat lands of Egypt; for forty long years they endured hardships in the wilderness; but they made for themselves a pure and free national life. So with the burghers in the Middle Ages: so with the industrials when they formed their craft-guilds.

Can we imagine how a feudal lord of those days, sitting in his ancestral castle, would have answered had he been told that the life-and-death power of his caste over their vassals would cease, that in days that were to be the man hewing wood in his forests, or such as he, would be free men with rights of their own before the law? Yet the great feudal system, like other forms of domination, passed away.

So it has ever been. The star of progress—"the star that rises with us, our life-star"—cannot, by any power that men may think they can bring to bear upon the heavens, be extinguished.

In scorn and impatience we, the women and many of the voiceless workers, have been told by the "incomparable captain" of those who count themselves our masters, "Wait and see."

Not in derision, but in grim earnest we fling back that advice to him and to those who support him.

"Wait and see!" Your waiting may not be long. There are strange and, to you, sinister signs on the horizon. You may not yet have altogether lost your grip upon the country. The minds of those whom you call the proletariat, like the mills of God, grind slowly; but they grind. Every injustice, every cruelty, every subterfuge, every unworthy device, every broken pledge, every false promise has been recorded somewhere; and, sooner or later, when the awakening that is now in progress has spread over the whole nation, when men as well as women have solidly determined that your insolence and their own blindness shall no longer hold them back from their true heritage of joyful life, you—the self-seeking lawyer-politicians—will be called to account.

"Wait and see!" That is our word to the politicians—to the leaders of the parties between which, with no determinate reason, save perhaps some faint hope to ease its burden, the nation swings.

And to ourselves! We, too, must wait; but, our eyes being open, we shall not wait in inaction. To sit down calmly, as our opponents desire, would be unworthy of our womanhood. We know that great changes are impending. Is the destruction of the old and the building of the new to be wrought out by men alone? If it were so we should have a social system as transitory and as imperfect as the old one has been. But that can never be, for we have beheld the vision. They also—our brothers in the great labour-world—have seen; and to them we say, "Help us to make an end of the unnatural strife that divides us and we will help you to the attainment of our common hope."

It should be understood that all who, to-day, make the choice, who bind themselves to all others in love and service, are making the battle easier and are shortening the days of tribulation. If we have noted and understood the signs of the times we must make no delay; we must unite in organisation, in protest, in spreading the truth we have discovered, in fanning to a living flame that divine discontent which says, "I cannot rest while my sisters and brothers are exploited and wronged."

So shall our waiting time be fruitful in world-service.
C. DESPARD.

THE STORM-WIND.

"At crises in the Woman's Movement there are always storms."
—EXTRACT FROM A LETTER.

Wind and weather, wind and weather,
What are they to scorn and anger?
Dark the cloud upon the mountain,
Fierce the storm upon the sea:
But than whirling wind unkinder,
And than blinding tempest blinder,
Is the hate that fears the dawning
Of the days that are to be.

Scorn and anger, scorn and anger,
Rising from the hearts of rulers,
Shaping into forms fantastic,
Speeding forth, a phantom band,
Till they stir the wind and weather,
Stir and rouse it altogether,
And the gale grown ardent, eager,
Thunders through the harassed land.

Through the darkness, through the darkness,
Listen how it shrieks and whistles,
How it roars and raves and rages,
How it moans and sobs and sighs!
Ye who lie awake and hear it,
Do ye welcome it or fear it?
Have ye ears to catch the message
Hurled across the rushing skies?

Woes of women, woes of women,
Hear it sounding in the branches,
Hear it shouted in the tree-tops,
Hear it wailed beneath the eaves:
Always when a woman taketh
Peril's path, the wind awaketh,
Always when the prison threatens,
Through the night the tempest heaves.

Throes of travail, throes of travail!
Lo! the womb of time is fruitful,
Lo! the motherhood of ages,
Torn with pangs that may not cease,
Travaileth midst wind and weather,
Bringing to the birth together
Freedom, child of pain and passion,
And the little love-child, Peace.

Pain and passion, pain and passion,
What are they to faith and courage?
Dark the cloud upon the mountain,
Wild the wind on land and sea.
But the path the wind prepareth,
And the path the woman dareth,
Fierceness of the storm that scareth
Strength that beareth and forbearth,
Lead towards the morning glory
Of the light that is to be.

G. COLMORE.

PETTY TYRANNY.

On all sides of the Suffrage movement force and petty tyranny are extending their tentacles to try and crush a thing they cannot understand. An example of this tyranny has occurred in Walton Gaol, Liverpool, which has already been rendered historic in the Suffrage world by the incarceration of Lady Constance Lytton—*alias* Jane Wharton. When I went to find one of our members who is an official there, I achieved an easy entrance. She was surprised to see me because, as a rule, many formalities have to be gone through before a stranger gains admission; but some of us neither fear prisons nor their attendants, and absence of fear removes all barriers. Our member was in bed, owing to a nervous breakdown brought on by depression at losing her post and being forced to go to another town away from the work in which she is so much interested. This has been caused on account of her being a Suffragist and a member of our League, and not being able to condescend to recognise authority that is petty and trivial in its demand for subserviency. Another officer, young and alert, remarked to me as we crossed the courtyard of the prison: "I would resign to-morrow if I could find another post; I hate the petty tyranny that goes on within these walls." That is the spirit now arising in women, and to these our fellow Suffragists we send our heartfelt sympathy.
C. E. A.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

Head of International Department: MRS. HARVEY,
4, Cleveland-gardens, Ealing, London, W.
(Please note change of address.)

IMPORTANT.

As we hope now to receive articles from International friends in regular rotation, we shall each week publish news bearing upon the country from which we have heard, or hope to hear, and give the name of the country that will mainly occupy our column the following week, so that our readers may have the opportunity of sending us any information concerning it which they may possess.

For the future all notices will be published in English, French, and German, and articles received in French and German will appear in those languages. Any news not connected with the country chosen will be given at the end of the column.

RUSSIA.

Russia—The Silent.

She remains silent in the face of the most provoking accusations. Russians never advertise nor explain themselves; they are, above all, extremely reserved and modest. Have they ever thought of expressing pride, say, in the heroic conduct of the Russian sailors at Messina, and, more recently, during the *Volturmo* disaster? It took a foreigner (Mr. S. Graham, in his interesting book on "Changing Russia,") to point out to the English public that the mural paintings of Vasnetzoff and Nesteroff can be compared to the work of Raphael. What is more, in Ivazofsky Russia produced the greatest painter of the sea that has ever appeared in any country, but Russia has never so much as hinted at anything of the kind. We all know that the world's musical centre has shifted to Russia, but it is not the Russians who informed us of that fact.

Russia has surely been the scene of experimentation for the last half-century, and the brilliant aptitude of Russian minds to generate original theories brought the natural result—terrible clashes of conflicting currents of thought. Lessons that were learned by Russia twenty or thirty years ago are to-day being laboriously blundered over a second time by certain countries of Western Europe. As usual, Russia did not explain what she was doing; Europe only heard the din and the war from the outside, only saw the cloud raised about her by the intensity of her struggle. Other times have dawned. Liberty, carried to the extreme of Licence, has had its day in Russia. Duty is the slogan of the new life. Russians everywhere talk now about their duties and a great deal less about their liberties.

This reform wave is going to sweep over the rest of Europe by-and-by. Remember it comes from Russia—the Silent!—From "The Western Morning News."

Russia—The Progressive.

On February 17 the Imperial Duma debated a Bill for the extension of the personal property rights of married women:—

The measure provides, among other things, that married women shall have the right to obtain separate passports without the permission of their husbands. Women living apart from their husbands shall be entitled to enter into both public and private agreements as employees or servants, and also to take employment as school teachers. Finally, they are empowered to conclude any contracts without the authority of their husbands.

Among the grounds for separation set forth in the Bill are contagious or mental disease of a husband, incapacity of a married woman for married life, conduct on the part of a husband incompatible with marital duty, immorality, and gross slander. The Bill regulates the rights of a man and wife living apart over the children.—*The Times*.

Russia—The Barbarous.

Last week during the discussion in the Duma on Russian Passports, M. Roditcheff said that the existing system placed Russia outside the community of civilised countries, relegating it to the Middle Ages. "We are not treated like human beings, but like cattle. On witnessing the procedure one does not feel national pride, but national shame."—*Darkest Russia*.

Next week: FRANCE.

TO ALL READERS: "VOTE" BRIGADE.
 Will any members and friends give time, any day, and take possession of some excellent and well-established pitches needing sellers?
Important.—Come to THE VOTE Poster Parade on Friday, March 6, leaving Headquarters at 6 p.m. Let it be a great success! THE VOTE street sales are increasing every week, but we need to get our paper more widely known, and this is an excellent method of advertisement. Some members give up selling to join our poster parades, but we want a sufficient number of paraders without taking sellers from their pitches. What we gain in one way we do not want to lose in another.
 P. LEAHY, Street Sales Organiser.

"Vote" Appeal—£100 Wanted.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	84	5	6
Mrs. Percy Sharman	1	1	0
Mrs. Thomas	5	0	
Mrs. Findon	2	6	
Mrs. Gush	2	0	

SIGNS OF THE TIMES.
"Obey."
 "Still an open question." The Great Ones of the Church of England by law established could get no further at the Convocation of Canterbury, when faced with the proposal to expunge the word "obey" from the bride's declaration at the marriage service. That they got so far is due to the common-sense of the Bishop of Lincoln, who is President of the Church League for Woman Suffrage, but to hide behind a more "convenient season" in making a just decision seems as characteristic to-day as in the time of Felix. We note, however, that even *The Globe* is moved to acknowledge that there is a woman's point of view. Absolute equality between man and woman in marriage vows is the only solution; it exists among the Friends and the Roman Catholics, and the masculine arrogance of the Anglican Church, with its "obey" and "giving away," must be swept into the limbo of things forgotten.

Women Police.
 The official Briton is notoriously slow to learn, and though in the United States, Norway, and even Germany police women are doing excellent service, and more are being appointed, Scotland Yard will have none of them—in the open, though they may work behind the scenes. Still, the subject cannot be quite ignored; and the pronouncement of Sir Samuel Chisholm a few days ago adds the weight of the authority of a former Lord Provost of Glasgow to the demand Suffragists have long made for the employment of women police, especially in cases in which women and children are concerned. It is welcome news that Exeter has progressed so far as to appoint a woman—Doctor Mabel Gates—to examine all cases of assault on women and children. When masculine monopoly in everything concerned with the law and its administration has been swept away, it will no longer be necessary to make legal luminaries look as like women as possible by dressing them in wig and gown; women will have the power of direct influence.

IN REGENT'S PARK.
 A large audience listened attentively at last Sunday's meeting. Miss Trotter presided. A most interesting speech was given by Mrs. Hyde, who called on the men present to consider the spiritual side of the movement and the urgency of recognising the mothers of the nation.

SUFFRAGE TRIUMPH IN HARROW PARLIAMENT.

The Harrow and Wealdstone Parliament invited the Harrow Branch of the Women's Freedom League to join with them in open public debate on Woman Suffrage, and the interest aroused was so great that the debate was adjourned to the next week. Miss Boyle proposed "that the franchise be extended to women on the same terms as men." She argued that as we had a representative Government it must include representation of half the nation or was not representative, but in reality a sex monopoly, and we were out to-day against monopolies. She pointed out how women had suffered through lack of representation, and how the nation had lost by being deprived of the expert help that women could give. Mr. Higgs, the leader of the Socialist party and premier of the House, opposed the resolution; he objected to the condition "on the same terms as men," which he declared to be a bad franchise, and therefore women should not demand it; he declared that women should not be engaged in the commercial world, but occupied in arts and crafts in their homes; he wished to return to the days of homespun, when factory and workshops did not exist.

The debate was then open to general discussion, in which so many were anxious to take part that, by mutual consent, the House adjourned till the following week. Unfortunately Miss Boyle was in Ireland, and could not attend that evening, but Mrs. Huntsman was allowed to close the debate in her place.

Mr. Johnson, Miss Wright, Mrs. Burnell, Miss Martin and several members of the Parliament spoke in favour of the proposition. Mrs. Gladstone Solomon made an eloquent speech on the anti-side. Mr. Higgs, replying to the discussion, said that all that the suffragists had shown was that they were actuated by feelings of envy of the male sex, and were simply out to make a better position for themselves! The only way to improve conditions was for women to be driven out of the commercial world. Mrs. Huntsman, in closing the debate, answered the arguments brought forward by the Opposition, and stated that the crux of the position lay in the statement made by Mr. Higgs that we should return to the days of homespun. Suffragists and anti-suffragists were different types; the latter belonged to the band of reactionaries to be found in all ages who waged an impossible fight, for they fought against the power of the universe itself that we call evolution. The former are the product of their time, they know that it is impossible to stop the great movement.

Upon the vote being taken upon the resolution, the speaker declared that there were seventy-five ayes and twenty-four noes. The ayes had it—more than three to one.

SHOULD WOMEN BE ELIGIBLE FOR PARLIAMENT?
 Debate at St. Albans.

A very interesting and spirited debate took place at St. Albans on the invitation of the St. Albans Debating Society between Miss Mabel Smith and Miss Anna Munro. Miss Munro opened the debate and urged the reform on the basis of justice, equity, necessity, and the self-respect of the nation for its manhood and womanhood. Miss Smith, in reply, contended that business and finance being the principal function of our legislative assembly women were incompetent, untrustworthy, and unable to judge or grasp such abstruse subjects. The debate was then shared by the audience, the majority of whom were antagonistic. Peace and War—and even Eve—were brought forward as arguments. At the close, however, a double vote was taken, one of the Society and one of the whole meeting, which showed that St. Albans is enthusiastically favourable, not only to votes for women, but also to her entering Parliament.

TOO GOOD TO BE MISSED.—Here is a good chance to help yourself and help a fellow-member of the Women's Freedom League, Madame Jane Harding, in her new enterprise. She has taken premises at 10, Hanover-street, Regent-street (first floor), and makes a speciality of hats. All who visit her will be surprised to find chic and artistic silk hats from 7s. 11d. and French and other models at very reasonable prices. They will also discover that it is impossible to overlook the pretty blouses from 5s. upwards, and gowns for day or evening wear.

THE "PROTECTED" SEX.

Killed.
 Winnie Ballard, aged eight, of Reading, missing a long time and found in the river. A woollen cap believed to have been hers has been found in a refuse pit by a dustman. It is alleged that the body could not have been in the part of the river where it was found unless thrown in, as it would have been held by the mud near the banks. Her playmates tell of a dark man in whose company she was seen, and other witnesses speak of such a man molesting other girls in the neighbourhood.

Catherine Bowler, Hoxton, died in St. George's Infirmary last week as the result of a stab in the back. In dying deposition named a man, who is committed for trial, as her assailant.

Mrs. Brockman, Ramsgate, found murdered. Her daughter, on her return after a short absence, states that she was assailed by one William Pitcher, who sprang at her and endeavoured to strangle her. Eventually he gagged and bound her, telling her he had murdered her mother and threatened to do the same to her if she would not run away with him. He then unbound her, and she pretended to agree to his wishes and went out with him, eventually escaping. Mrs. Brockman was found with her head beaten in and the hands tied. Pitcher in custody and admits his guilt. He is believed to have gagged and bound his own sister, a domestic servant, who was found unconscious some two months ago by her master and mistress on their return from the theatre.

Brutal Assaults.
 Edith Bourner, Dover, hit on the head by Henry Tinley with a piece of iron in a lonely lane last Thursday week. Prisoner surrendered to police, saying he did not know if he had left the girl dead or not.—*Reynolds's*, Feb. 22.

Mrs. De Vitre, Wokingham, attacked by a boy to whom she refused a loan, struck with a hammer and robbed of her purse.—*Reynolds's*, Feb. 22.

Mrs. McIntyre, Musselburgh, savagely assaulted by her husband last Saturday week, knocked down, kicked, tin of scalding tea thrown in her face, and boot thrown at her. Brought up before Baillie Millar, at the Musselburgh Police-court, husband was fined £3.

Same court, same magistrate, Nathaniel Campbell, for assaulting his mother-in-law, seizing her by the throat, striking and kicking her, with his infant of nine days in her arms—she having come to the assistance of her daughter, whom the man kept in starvation. Fined £2.

We note from Scotland two other cases. Miners who imperilled the lives of all their mates underground by acts of unpardonable carelessness, fined on various counts up to the amount of £2 in the aggregate; and a man who, having committed several petty thefts up to the value of £32, and who had two previous convictions, three years' penal servitude.

The murder of Mrs. Wilkinson by a lad related to her, reported in our last issue, was a peculiarly brutal one, the mutilations of the body recalling the Whitechapel murders.

A recruit of the 2nd Battalion Welsh Regiment has been arrested in connection with the brutal assault on Mrs. Cowan, the Kingsley schoolmistress, savagely attacked on her way home by a man in running "shorts."

CAXTON HALL "WEDNESDAY."

Presiding at our Caxton Hall "Wednesday" on February 18, Mrs. Tanner explained the objects of The Women's Freedom League and refuted Mr. Lloyd George's recent statement, that the Cause of Woman Suffrage was losing ground in the country.

Miss Nina Boyle stated that the League had been taking part in all the four by-election campaigns and everywhere the greatest enthusiasm prevailed for votes for women, the audiences manifested an intelligent appreciation of militancy and the reasons for it; and when Mr. Lloyd George declared that our Cause was "losing ground," he was merely indulging in a "play of fancy."

The Rev. Moritz Weston, who had chosen for his subject "Christianity and Mary Magdalene," argued that the treatment meted out to Mary Magdalene by Christ was very different from that offered to her now by modern Christians. Her path to repentance was not made easy, and a Christian Minister scarcely considered it part of his duty to try to reclaim her. Dr. Weston did not think that economic conditions were the chief cause of prostitution; he thought that the general boredom and monotony of toil which contrasted so strongly with the easy emolument and luxury obtained in this kind of life might be partly the cause; but perhaps good women in the conventional sense, and bad men had most to do with it. A prostitute's virtuous sister made things so difficult for the unfortunate woman, whereas there were no bounds to her tolerance of the men who made the prostitute what she was, and received these men as honoured guests in her home. Dr. Weston considered that only broad-minded women should attempt rescue work; and that many of our present rescue homes had done more harm than good. He asked what the Churches were doing for the thousands of prostitutes we had on our streets in London. Sometimes there was much talk about this question, but if Christ had wanted to deal with it, He would not have organised meetings, made speeches, or distributed pamphlets on the subject. Christ would not have tolerated a dual standard of morality for men and women. "Christianity," said Dr. Weston, "stands condemned in face of our Mary Magdalenes. We must go back to Christ and His teachings if we are to grapple with this problem."
 F.A.U.

THE PIONEER PLAYERS

will give their Second

MI-CARÊME BALL

at
The Connaught Rooms,
 GREAT QUEEN STREET,
 on
Thursday, March 19, 1914,
 at 10.30 p.m.

Tickets (including Supper), **15s.**, may be obtained from—

- Miss EDITH CRAIG, 31, Bedford Street, Strand—3873 Gerrard.
- Miss OLIVE TERRY, 16, York Terrace, Regent's Park—5144 Mayfair.
- PIONEER PLAYERS, 139, Long Acre—4086 Regent.

Owing to the limited number of tickets, it is requested that all applications should be made by Thursday, March 12. No tickets are sent until payment has been made for them.

In Aid of the "NINE ELMS" School Clinic.
The M. C. H. Dramatic Society
NEXT TUESDAY, March 3, 8 p.m.,

Will Present
A TRIPLE BILL:
 1. "A MAKER OF DREAMS," by Oliphant Down.
 2. "COURAGE," a Dutch Play, by Kate Harvey.
 3. "MADAME MARCELLE," by Constance Maud.
 AND ON
TUESDAY, MARCH 24, at 3 p.m.,
 They will also Present
LONGFELLOW'S "HIAWATHA."
 (Dramatised by KATE HARVEY).

At the Cripplegate Institute, Golden Lane, Barbican, E.C.
 TICKETS (Numbered and Reserved), price 3s., 2s., 1s. (56 reserved but unnumbered at 6d. each), may be obtained from Miss SHAFRO, 5, Market-square, Bromley, Kent. (Telephone: Bromley 1793.)
Special Terms for Schools. A free ticket will be given with every ten tickets bought.
 The Cripplegate Institute is 2 minutes' walk from Aldersgate Station (Metropolitan Railway). Motor-buses Nos. 21, 43, 60, 76, 98, and 4 pass near.

The Women's Freedom League
 HOLDS
PUBLIC MEETINGS AT CAXTON HALL
Every Wednesday Afternoon,
 at 3.30.

MARCH 4th.
Speaker: MR. J. CAMERON GRANT,
 On "Thou Shalt Not Steal."
Chair: MRS. HUNTSMAN.
ADMISSION FREE.

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HALL & SONS, Ltd., Bootmakers,
 Tel.: 2425 Regent. **370, STRAND, W.C.** (Opposite Savoy Hotel)
A SPECIAL DISCOUNT of 10 per cent. will be allowed to all Readers of "The Vote," on all Goods purchased during the month of February, on presentation of attached Coupon.

10% COUPON
 2s. in the £ allowed to Readers who fill in name and address and present or send this with Order to Hall & Sons, Ltd., 370, Strand, W.C.

A VIGOROUS AND SUCCESSFUL CAMPAIGN IN WALES.

Thanks to the enthusiasm, energy, and devotion of Miss Alix Minnie Clark, our able hon. secretary of the Montgomery Boroughs Branch of the Women's Freedom League, an excellent Suffrage campaign in the Boroughs was successfully inaugurated last week, and will continue till February 28, the chief speakers being Mrs. Despard, Mrs. Nevinson, and Miss Anna Munro. At Newton, on February 16, an enthusiastic meeting was held at the Public Hall, at which Mrs. Despard and Miss Anna Munro spoke, and Miss Clark presided. Mr. John Scurr had promised to attend, but he was suddenly plunged into the brief and sharp Parliamentary fight at Bethnal Green. Miss Clark paid tribute to him as "one of the champions of the Woman's Movement." The movement, she said, could never be killed, and the Government had to learn this lesson. The principles of true Liberalism were democracy, freedom, liberty, and justice. When Mr. Asquith said we had the finest democratic Government in the world he was uttering one of the greatest falsehoods. As long as women had no votes democracy would be incomplete.

Mrs. Despard spoke on the freedom for which the Women's Freedom League is striving, and declared that until men and women combined equally to form one people the nation would not be economically free. The Government, she said, was willing to take the women's money, but would not give them what they asked in return—votes. The Government at the present moment was working at things which they imagined would keep them in power. They cared for nothing but votes. If a woman asked questions at a meeting she was turned out, but if a man put queries to a speaker he was answered. Why? Because the man had a vote and the women had not. It was now the policy of the League to get their views understood by the men of the country. The gaining of votes for women was a mere beginning of the work women wished to do for the community; the vote was a lever which they must have in their hands to do good service.

Miss Anna Munro said that much opposition to the movement arose from people who did not understand it, and who did not realise what was behind it. The agitation which it represented had been going on for many years. She spoke on the need for the educated co-operation of men and women for their Cause, and claimed that the demand for the vote was reasonable and just.

An "At Home" at Newtown: A White Slave Traffic Address by Miss Munro.

On Wednesday an "At Home" was given at the Public Hall, Newtown, at which Mrs. Flora Annie Steel presided, and was warmly welcomed after her recent illness. In the course of a short address, she said she was constantly being asked by people whether women really had any wrongs. Women were not being treated equally by men, and never would be until they stood side by side and shoulder to shoulder in the world, looking towards the goal and the hope of all things to come. Was it right that the woman who bore her child should not be considered a parent of that child? There was not one word of motherhood in the law. It was all fatherhood. She

Chapter 13

Scrubbing Tablecloths

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You say the dirt and stains won't come out without scrubbing.

They will—with Fels-Naptha used in "the Fels-Naptha way."

Try one piece next wash-day according to directions on the Fels-Naptha wrapper.

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did not complain that men had not done their best for women. They had done their best, she admitted, but it was not the best. It was quite impossible for a man to do his best for a woman just as much as it was for a woman to do for a man. She would not dream of legislating for men, and why should any man presume to legislate for women?

Miss Munro gave an address, marked by tact, lucidity, and insight, on the White Slave Traffic. The conspiracy of silence on this question, she said, had at last been broken; the Criminal Law Amendment Act was inadequate. It was a shame to the country that while property belonging to a girl was protected until she was twenty-one, her honour, which was a vastly more important thing, was only protected until she was sixteen, or if she looked sixteen. Referring to the best methods of dealing with the evil, the chief avenue of activity must be education. They must teach girls what they were, and what they could be—the beauty of their own bodies and of their own souls. They must also not forget their boys, but must teach them that self-respect and self-control were great manly virtues, and that the saying that a young man must sow his wild oats was a very bad one; to reap such wild oats brought a terrible harvest both for the men and women of the country. Women policemen were needed; they worked well in some parts of America and in Germany, and were required in England as well. It was highly advisable that in cases of assaults upon young children the first investigations should be undertaken by women, and it would be a good thing to have both men and women judging such cases. At present women were being turned out of court when such cases came on, but she considered that where a woman was standing in the dock it was the place of women to stand by her.

Meetings at Montgomery and Other Places.

On Tuesday afternoon a public meeting was held in Montgomery Town Hall, and Miss Clark presided. Miss Anna Munro dealt with "The A.B.C. of Woman Suffrage," and Mrs. Nevinson described the struggle from the early years of the Women's Movement to the present time. Mrs. Despard told of the Tax Resistance Movement, and gave some of her experiences as a resister. In the evening an excellent meeting was held at Carno, at which Mrs. Nevinson and Miss Munro gave interesting addresses, and received a hearty welcome. Miss Clark presided. The following day a meeting was held at the Church House, Llanymynech, at which Mrs. Peplow Cartwright presided. The politicians, she said, knew that the Woman's Movement would not end with the vote, but would lead to a little spring-cleaning in the Westminster Club, where the members did not pay any subscription, but paid themselves salaries for being members. Miss Clark and Miss Munro spoke on the aims of the League and the meaning of the Movement.

On Friday a very successful "At Home" was given in the Town Hall, Llanfyllin, the platform being decorated in the League's colours by beautiful yellow daffodils, white hyacinths, and maiden-hair fern from the gardens at Bodfach. After a musical programme, to which the youngest members of the League ably contributed, Mr. Lomax took the chair, and in a short address urged the justice of the Woman's Movement. Miss Munro's speech was listened to with the greatest interest and sympathy. During the week seventy-four new members have been enrolled, and Miss Munro's magnificent work in the Boroughs is bearing fruit rapidly. At every place she visits, people flock to hear her, and at every meeting the halls have been filled to overflowing.

"DAMAGED GOODS."

We congratulate the Authors' Producing Society on their recent splendid presentation of Brieux's *Damaged Goods* at the Little Theatre. That this play should have been censored is the strongest argument we have yet had for the relegation of the Censor and his office to a museum of useless antiquities. As Mr. Ramsay Macdonald said, in a brief address before the rising of the curtain last Sunday, "an enlightened democracy would never have tolerated that a play of this character and with this message should have to be produced privately on a Sunday night."

In the first act, which takes place in the Doctor's consulting-room, Mr. George Dupont is warned that if he married within less than three or four years he may inflict untold misery on his wife and children. The next act is laid in Dupont's study. His wife, Henriette, is anxious about their child's health; his mother afterwards comes in with graver news concerning it, and the scene closes with the entrance of Henriette, who now learns the real nature of the illness. The third act is again in the Doctor's consulting-room. Henriette's father, a Deputy, consults the Doctor about the possibility of a divorce for his daughter, and the Doctor uses this occasion to point out that before Henriette was married inquiries were made about settlements on both sides, but not about the health of the contracting parties. The Deputy had not thought of this. "Couldn't there be some law?" "Law! No—there are too many of them, but public opinion could certainly make it a custom!" "But things like that are not talked about!" "And in the meantime, all the victims can say is, 'I didn't know.'" F. A. U.

WOMEN WIN AT WYCOMBE.

In the settlement of the lock-out in the chair-making trade at High Wycombe, which has lasted three months, women have gained 50 per cent. on their previous wage.

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BRANCH NOTES.

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

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Croydon.—Office, 32A, The Arcade, High-street.

Miss Bennett gave a very interesting address at our last cottage meeting, which was held by kind permission of Mrs. Inwood, at 59, Rymer-road, on February 19. A discussion on the need and use of the Parliamentary vote followed. We wish to express our gratitude to Mrs. Myers for holding a whist drive at her house on February 21, and for making such good preparations. A very successful meeting resulted. Thanks are given to the members who gave beautiful prizes.

Clapham.

At the meeting held on February 17, the hon. treasurer drew attention to Dr. Knight's appeal to all members to agree to subscribe a regular weekly sum towards a General Election fund. The response at the meeting was most encouraging. Will members who were not present send in their contributions, and say how much they will contribute monthly? The month's total will be sent to the Headquarters on March 2. We desire also to remind members that the 1914 subscriptions are now due. The next meeting to instruct delegates on voting at the Conference will be held on Tuesday, March 10.

East London.

We are glad to announce that the whist party proved as great a success financially as socially. At the last Branch meeting we resolved to hold a drawing meeting in the near future. The next Branch meeting will be at 37, Wellington-buildings, March 5, at 7 p.m.

Kensington.

At the meeting on February 19, held by kind invitation of Mrs. Meeson Coates, the chair was taken by Miss Cicely Hamilton, and Mr. Emerson, of the Divorce Law Reform Union, was the speaker. In his interesting address he showed how sex inequality exists in divorce, and how the law makes it almost impossible for any but the comparatively wealthy to obtain divorce—a clear instance of one law for the rich and another for the poor. A good discussion followed, and a request to the speaker to return to the Branch and the subject. Members are asked to support the open-air meetings to be held in North Kensington, particulars of which will be found in "Forthcoming Events."

Tufnell Park.

Will all who asked for membership cards at the meeting at the Athenium in the Camden-road on February 5 kindly send in their cards without delay to the Branch secretary, Miss Jane Barrow, 202, Brecknock-road, N.

PROVINCES. Burnage.

The weekly meeting was held on February 16, when the resolutions for Conference were discussed, and roused a keen interest in the forthcoming Conference, and in the general work of the League.

Chester.

Mrs. Howroyd is announced to address the Chester Branch of the National Union of Railwaymen at the Queen's Hotel, Foregate-street, Chester, at 8 p.m., on Sunday, March 8. We much regret to learn that Miss Winifred Davies has been forbidden by her medical attendant to speak in public for some time to come. She will, therefore, be unable to fulfil her engagement to speak at our Branch meeting on March 26, and other arrangements will be made. A public meeting under the auspices of this Branch is being arranged to take place at Helsby, Cheshire, on Thursday, March 5. We are anticipating a crowded meeting on Friday, March 6, when Mrs. Despard and Miss Eunice Murray are advertised to speak at the Masonic Hall, Hember-street, Chester.

Middlesbrough.

On February 16, Mr. J. Kelsall, of Stockton, gave an address on the subject of the "Anomalies of the Present System," in which he dealt with the inequalities in education, law, medicine, and the labour market, where the low economic position of women was responsible to a large extent for the social evil. On February 19 Mrs. Schofield Coates gave an address on Women's Suffrage to the members of the Presbyterian Church Guild, who gave her a very cordial reception. Members are asked to note that there will be no meeting on Monday, March 2. A special business meeting will be held instead on Friday, February 27. Tickets are now on sale for the meeting of March 9, when Miss Nina Boyle and Mr. James Reid (prospective Unionist candidate) will speak, and Mrs. Schofield Coates will preside. The date of the Suffrage plays, *William the Conqueror* and *Noblesse Oblige*, by Miss W. M. Jones, has been postponed until Wednesday, April 8.

Reading.

A meeting of the Reading Branch was held in the "Parlour" of Palmer Hall, on February 17, at 8 p.m. Mrs. H. Sauret gave a most interesting paper on "Women and Economics," based on Mrs. Gilman's powerful book. An animated discussion followed, in which Mrs. Broadley, Mrs. Corry, and others took part. Mrs. Tregay presided. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, March 4, at Palmer Hall, at 4.30, taking the form of tea-social. Will members and friends please note?

Sheffield.

Miss Munro held a number of dinner-hour meetings, open-air and indoor evening meetings and "At Homes" at Sheffield previous to the Welsh campaign. All were well attended, the chair being taken very ably at the dinner-hour meetings by Mrs. Roberts, assisted by Mrs. Whitehouse. In the evening Mrs. Wilkinson, Mr. Evans, and Miss Barnett presided. New members joined the Branch, and Miss Munro may again visit the district if an attempt is made to suppress free speech in Sheffield.

Southampton.

Will friends kindly look out goods in readiness for a rummage sale to be arranged for shortly?

Winchester.

Will all members make a special effort to attend the Branch meeting on Tuesday, March 3, at 14, Saxon-road. Jumble-sale and other business to be discussed.

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L 14.—Most successful model in white lawn, new collar and long sleeves, fasten in front.
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Sizes, 13, 13 1/2, 14, 14 1/2

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WESTBOURNE GROVE, LONDON, W.

SCOTLAND.—Dundee.

At last week's meeting Dr. Emily Thomson read an interesting and instructive paper on "Race Improvement"; Mrs. Allen presided. Emigration, she said, is a strong factor in the depletion of our hardest stock, while the evil influence of tubercular diseases and alcoholic tendencies are responsible for a huge percentage of race degeneration in our country. In the propagation of the fittest the boy and girl Scout movement has made its influence felt in its splendid moral training of the youth of the country. Dr. Thomson spoke very strongly on the matter of instructing boys and girls on the sex question. It is a parent's duty, she insisted, to teach boys and girls all they ought to know of the pitfalls that lie around instead of allowing them to get their information from questionable sources.

A successful jumble sale was held on February 21. On March 5 two women candidates for the School Board will address the Branch, and on March 19 Mr. G. Mitchell, M.A., will give "Some Pages from History," with lantern illustrations.

Edinburgh.—Suffrage Shop: 90, Lothian-road.

At Tuesday's meeting Dr. Aimée Gibbs gave the second of her lectures on "Healthy Homes and a Healthy Race," taking as her subject, "Our Babies: How to Keep Them Well." Her very practical paper was greatly appreciated, as were Miss Wood's appropriate recitation, Miss Marchbank's song, and Miss May Grant's violin solo. Members are asked to help by making this excellent series of lectures even better known, especially at mothers' meetings, Guilds, &c. On Wednesday evening Miss Paterson, Lady Commissioner under the Insurance Act, spoke on the Act and its working as it affects women, and answered several questions on knotty points. Miss Sara Munro presided. At a discussion on "The Case Against Woman Suffrage," opened by Mrs. Harold Norris (N.L.O.W.S.), under the auspices of the Protestant Mission Literary Society, Miss McLachlan was invited to open the case in favour of Votes for Women. There was a good discussion, in the course of which most of the usual points were dealt with, but, unfortunately, no vote was taken.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Women's Tax Resistance League.

On Tuesday afternoon a sale took place in the Old Forge, Marlow, of a pair of candlesticks, a silver presentation cup, a bronze bowl, and a dog-cart which had been taken from the houses of Mrs. Sargent Florence and Miss Hayes, members of the Women's Tax Resistance League, because of their refusal to pay Imperial taxes. Mrs. Kington Parkes, secretary of the League, Mrs. Hyde and Mrs. Tippett, of the Women's Freedom League, mounted on the dog-cart, and pointed out to the crowd the pressing need of Woman Suffrage, and that the best and most constitutional way of proving this to the Government was for women to say, "No vote, no tax." The following resolution was passed:—"That this meeting protests against the seizure and sale of goods belonging to Mrs. Sargent Florence and Miss Hayes, and is of opinion that women taxpayers are justified in refusing to pay all Imperial taxes till they have the same control over national expenditure as male taxpayers possess." Mrs. Sargent Florence is a well-known decorative artist, and has just completed a fresco for the Town Hall, Chelsea.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS. Fri., Feb. 27.—CROYDON W.F.L. OFFICE, 32A The Arcade. Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Becher. CAXTON HALL, W.F.L. Bohemian Evening, 8-12 p.m. Tickets 2s. 6d. (including supper). Proceeds to Headquarter Funds. Sun., Mar. 1.—REGENT'S PARK (weather permitting), noon. Mon., Mar. 2.—W.F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi. Discussion Meeting. Opener: Dr. G. V. Drysdale. Subject: "The Population Question and Women's Suffrage," 8 p.m. CLAPHAM, Corner St. Luke's-road, Open-air Meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner. Chair: Miss Trot. BROMLEY, Kilsano, King's-avenue, Branch Meeting, 8.30 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 3.—CRIPPLEGATE INSTITUTE, Performance by the M.C.H. Dramatic Society of A Maker of Dreams, Courage (a Dutch play), and Madame Marcelle, 8 p.m., in aid of the "Nine Elms" School Clinic. Tickets 3s., 2s., 1s. and 6d. each. KENSINGTON, corner Portobello-road and Blenheim-crescent, Open-air Meeting, 8.30 p.m.

Wed., Mar. 4.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Mr. J. Cameron Grant. Chair: Mrs. Huttsman. Admission Free. PECKHAM, Hanover-park, Rye-lane, Open-air Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Miss Trot and Mrs. Pickering. 1, ROBERT-STREET, Adelphi, London, Branches Council Meeting, 6.30 p.m.

Thurs., Mar. 5.—KENSINGTON, 7, Allen-mansions, Allen-street, "At Home" (by kind invitation of Mrs. Gordon), 4-6 p.m., to meet Mrs. French Sheldon, F.R.G.S., and Mrs. Nevinson, L.L.A.

Fri., March 6.—Caxton Hall, Political Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers, Miss Boyle, Mr. Lansbury, and Mrs. Schofield Coates. "Vote" Poster Parade. Start from Headquarters at 6 p.m.

Tues., Mar. 10.—CLAPHAM, 1, Imperial-mansions, Brunells-road, Branch Meeting. Business: Instruction to Delegates for Conference. Wed., Mar. 11.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Nevinson. "The Past, Present, and Future of the Woman's Movement."

Fri., Mar. 13.—CROYDON, W.F.L. Office Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speaker: Miss Tawney. Mon., Mar. 16.—W. F.L. OFFICE, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi. Discussion Meeting, 8 p.m. Subject: "Who are the White Slave Traffickers?" Opener: Mr. E. B. Lloyd.

Wed., Mar. 18.—CAXTON HALL, Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Miss Margaret McMillan: "Social Aspects of the Camp School." 1, ROBERT-STREET, Adelphi, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7 p.m. Business: Instructions to Conference Delegates.

Fri., Mar. 20.—1, ROBERT-STREET, Adelphi, Mid-London Branch Meeting, 7 p.m. (if adjournment of Wednesday's meeting necessary). Tues., Mar. 24.—CRIPPLEGATE INSTITUTE, Performance of Hiawatha (afternoon).

Sat., Mar. 28.—W.F.L. ANNUAL CONFERENCE, CAXTON HALL, 10 a.m. Sun., Mar. 29.—CAXTON HALL, Reception to Delegates, 3.30 p.m.

PROVINCES. Fri., Feb. 27.—Middlesbrough, Business Meeting, 8 p.m. Sat., Feb. 28.—Southampton, Morris Hall, Members' Meeting, 2.30 p.m.

Mon., Mar. 2.—Burnage, 22, South-avenue, Branch Meeting. Tues., Mar. 3.—Winchester, 14, Saxon-road, Members' Meeting, 3 p.m. Chester, Crane House, Drawing-room Meeting, 3 p.m. Hostess: Mrs. Crosland Taylor. Speaker: Miss Eunice Murray.

Wed., Mar. 4.—Sale, Mrs. Despard, Reading, Palmer Hall, Social, 4.30. Tea, Readings, &c. Admission 6d. Liverpool, "Brook Side," Maiden-lane, Clubmoor, Drawing-room Meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker: Miss Andrews. Hostess: Mrs. Gibson.

Thurs., Mar. 5.—Manchester, Memorial Hall, Albert-square, Public Meeting, 7.30 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Rev. A. E. Cornibier, Chair: Miss M. I. Neal. Ipswich, Suffrage Shop, Dr. Barnes (Woman Physician East Suffolk Hospital) on "The Training and Work of Women Doctors and Dentists." Helshy, Cheshire, Public Hall, Public Meeting 8 p.m. (for speakers see small bills).

Fri., Mar. 6.—Chester, Masonic Hall, Hunter-street, Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Eunice Murray. Mon., Mar. 9.—Middlesbrough, Primitive Methodist Hall, Public Meeting, 7.45 p.m. Speakers: Miss Nina Boyle and Mr. James Reid. Chair: Mrs. Schofield Coates. Reserved seats, 6d. and 1s.

Thurs., Mar. 12.—Ipswich, Suffrage Shop, Miss Mand Webb on "First Aid in the Home," with demonstrations. Sat., Mar. 14.—Southampton, Morris Hall, Social Afternoon for Members and Friends, 3 to 7 p.m. Tickets 6d.

Mon., Mar. 16.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, Miss Cook (West Hartlepool): "Some Thoughts on the Divine Comedy." Mon., Mar. 23.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, Mr. W. Harrison: "The Vote and the Physical Force Fallacy."

Thurs., Mar. 26.—Chester, Brown and Co.'s Sale Rooms, Branch Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers will be announced later. Mon., Mar. 30.—Middlesbrough, Hinton's Café, "At Home," 7.30 p.m. Mr. Charles Coates: "The Housing Question."

SCOTLAND. Tues., Mar. 3.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, Lecture by Dr. Alice Hutchinson: "Woman's Work in the Balkans," 2.30 p.m. Tea. Admission 2d.

Wed., Mar. 4.—Edinburgh, Suffrage Shop, 90, Lothian-road, "At Home," 7.30 p.m. Mrs. Leslie McKenzie: "Women and Local Government." Thurs., Mar. 5.—Dunfermline, Branch Meeting, 8 p.m. Dundee, Branch Meeting, Dundee. Meeting. Addresses by women candidates for the School Board.

Thurs., Mar. 19.—Dundee, Mr. George Mitchell, M.A., "Some Pages from History," with lantern illustrations. Wed., Mar. 26.—Dunfermline, Masonic Hall, Social.

WALES. Montgomery Boroughs Campaign. Fri., Feb. 27.—Llanbrynmaur, Public Meeting, Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark.

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Sat., Feb. 28.—Newtown, Severn-square, Open-air Meeting. Miss Anna Munro. Chair: Miss A. M. Clark.

OTHER SOCIETIES. Sun., Mar. 8.—GENERAL LYING-IN HOSPITAL, York-road, Lambeth, Speech by Miss Munro at the Nurses' "Literary Hour," 9 p.m. Fri., Mar. 13.—BUCKHURST-HILL, Mission Hall, Meeting for Working Women, 3 p.m. Speaker: Mrs. Tanner.

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For Addresses see Advertisements near Reading Matter & on Cover. Some of these Firms advertise alternate weeks.

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