

THE VOTE,
August 14, 1914.
ONE PENNY

OUR RESOLVE.

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

VOL. X. NO. 251.

[Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.] FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 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.

THE WAR FEVER

—AND AFTER.

KVINDELIG
LÆSEFORENING

CAR & GENERAL

INSURANCE CORPORATION, LIMITED.

85 Pall Mall, LONDON, S.W. (33 Branches).



INSURE YOUR CAR

With the Pioneers.

£1,000,000 PAID IN CLAIMS.

Income £365,000. | Estd. 1903. | Funds, £311,000.

THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE

— AND —

THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

The National Executive Committee, at their Emergency Meeting on August 10th, passed the following RESOLUTION:—

"The Women's Freedom League, feeling keenly the situation of the country at the present moment, have decided to abstain during the war from all forms of active militancy.

'The National Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League re-affirms the urgency of keeping the Suffrage flag flying, and, especially now, making the country understand the supreme necessity of women having a voice in the counsels of the nation, and in view of the earnest desire prevalent in the ranks of Suffragists to render service to their country at this critical time, the Women's Freedom League are organising a Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps, whose chief object will be to render help to the women and children of the nation.'

"Any who desire to join the Corps, which has been formed, can learn all particulars from Mrs. Despard, 1, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C."

TO OUR READERS.

It is our urgent desire to keep our organ, THE VOTE, in being during this national crisis. It is the link between all members and the one means by which the entire League can be kept in touch with vital decisions and plans.

We make a strong appeal to every member to buy her copy without fail each week, and we appeal to those who can do so to buy more. This is one way in which all can help to keep the Suffrage flag flying while we are organising to meet the national needs.

We have, in the meantime, decided to husband our resources by reducing the size of THE VOTE to eight pages. In view of the shortage of paper, daily and weekly newspapers have taken the same step. It may be necessary to reduce still further the number of our pages, but we shall give due notice of any such decision.

We shall publish each week news that will be of interest to women who are determined to show that every service they render in this crisis is rendered as Suffragists, who still insist on their demand for recognition as citizens in their own country. Women are in no way responsible for the appalling situation with which they are faced, and to relieve which men are loudly crying for their help. They are ready to do what is demanded of them for the sake of the nation, but they are determined that no man-made laws shall in future prevent their participation in the rights, as well as the responsibilities, of citizenship.

Let every member make it a point of honour to buy THE VOTE every week.

C. DESPARD, Editor.

ANNIE A. SMITH, Assistant Editor.

Women's Freedom League.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

Telegrams—"TACTICS, LONDON. Telephone—6146 CITY.
Colours—GREEN, WHITE AND GOLD.
President—Mrs. C. DE SPARD. Hon. Treasurer—Dr. E. KNIGHT.
Hon. Organising Secretary—Miss EUNICE MURRAY.
Hon. Head of Merchandise Department—Mrs. SNOW.
Head of Political and Militant Department—Miss C. NINA BOYLE.
Secretary—Miss F. A. UNDERWOOD.
VOTE Street Sales Organiser—Miss P. LEAHY.

TO AVOID WASTE.

The following letter has been sent to the London Mayors; our Branches are being asked to send a similar one to the Mayors in the Provinces and the Provosts of Scotland:—

Dear Sir,—We understand that you are calling together a Committee to organise the whole citizen service in your Borough at the present time. The Women's Freedom League has now formed a Women's Suffrage National Aid Corps, and we think it advisable to let you know this so that we may co-operate and not overlap any work by running too many independent schemes. You will, therefore, probably think it advisable that this Corps should be represented on your Committee by one of our principal local members.—We, are dear sir, yours faithfully,

C. DESPARD, President.
E. KNIGHT, Hon. Treasurer.
FLORENCE A. UNDERWOOD, Secretary.

THE RELEASE OF SUFFRAGE PRISONERS.

The following letter was sent by the Women's Freedom League to the Prime Minister and all Cabinet Ministers, together with a description of their experiences by those who have been forcibly fed:—

Dear Sir,—The Women's Freedom League begs to draw your attention to the enclosed particulars of the unspeakable torture of Suffragist women at present confined in His Majesty's prisons for acts carried out solely with a political motive, and to urge you in this hour of national crisis at once to release unconditionally all these our fellow Suffragists, and so remove a cause of burning indignation against the Government, and a source of weakness to this country.—Yours very truly,

C. DESPARD, President.
E. KNIGHT, Honorary Treasurer.
C. NINA BOYLE, Head of
Political and Militant Dept.
F. A. UNDERWOOD, Secretary.

The Home Secretary's Statement:

Unconditional Release.

In reply to Mr. F. A. Whyte, the Home Secretary said, on August 9, that he had advised His Majesty to remit the sentence on all persons now in prison for crimes connected with the Suffragette Movement. This course had been taken without solicitation on their part, and without requiring any undertaking from them. He had also advised that sentences on persons convicted for assault in connection with recent strikes should be remitted. His Majesty was confident that the persons referred to would respond to the feeling of the country at a time like the present, and could be trusted not to stain the Cause they supported by any further crime or disorder.

FORCIBLE FEEDING.

The unconditional release of the Suffrage prisoners must now mean the end of forcible feeding. This torture of women striving for political freedom must be consigned to the limbo of things forgotten. We are glad that the Government has at last recognised that no other course was open to them but to release the prisoners without requiring any undertaking from them. Dr. Haden Guest's lecture at Brighton, of which we give an account below, revealed the horror, the indignity, and the danger to which the victims of forcible feeding were subjected. "Never again!" is the cry of the thinking women—and men—of the country

Dr. Haden Guest's Lecture at Brighton.

At a meeting held in "The Dome," Brighton, on August 4, under the auspices of the Brighton and Hove Humanitarian Society (a non-political society for the promotion of health and humanitarian principles), the following resolution was passed, with only two dissentients, by the whole audience, representing those in favour of the extension of the franchise to women and those opposed to it, and all political parties:—"That in view of the disaster of war now facing the nation, we demand that the Government shall without delay make peace with the women of the nation, and as a first step grant an immediate amnesty to all prisoners connected with the Suffrage Movement."

Mr. Henry George Massingham presided on the occasion, and a moving speech on the medical aspect of Forcible Feeding was given by Dr. Haden Guest, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. With reference to the war, he said it was necessary, in the face of such an unprecedented disaster, that we should all stand together without any demonstration of party feeling. The Government should, however, smooth the way by releasing all its Woman Suffrage prisoners.

Dr. Guest then dealt with the medical and humane side of forcible feeding, explaining how the Cat and Mouse Act was passed to free the Government from the dilemma in which it was involved by the adoption of the hunger-strike. Forcible feeding had, however, again been resorted to, and this he characterised as torture just as much as the rack was, and the drawing out of sinews; and an appalling outrage. How those engaged in it could do it, he could not understand; they seemed to be possessed by a fantastic and distorted idea that they were bound to obey such orders. When carried out in the ordinary way, there is an examination of the mouth and throat first, to see if there is any obstruction; in prison there is no examination and no sterilizing of the tubes. He gave the following possible results of forcible feeding:—Danger of food passing into the lungs; injury to the nose and throat; dilation of the heart, causing giddiness and collapse; severe nervous exhaustion (not hysteria), from which it is doubtful if the patient ever entirely recovers. The effect on the mind is the most serious of all, and varies with different prisoners. One feeding of one prisoner caused a complete mental breakdown. There is a danger also of the mental effect coming on later, and of it enduring to the last days of the victim's life. Rectum feeding he pronounced to be an indecent assault.

The Outcome: Votes for Women.

"To ask the aid of women at a period of national crisis involves two things. It means, in the first place, that we recognise them as part of the nation. It means, in the second place, that their help is a thing worth having. The first point is a recognition of their citizenship, and of that the vote is the one adequate symbol. The second point is a recognition of our stupidity in so long delaying to accept what we now acclaim as a thing of value."—*Daily Herald.*

AMERICAN DENTISTRY.

DR. GOLDBERG, U.S.A.

465, STRAND, W.C. (Next Door to Gatti's Restaurant).
Telephone Gerard 4642. Hours 10 to 7. Saturdays, 10 to 1.

The Fear of the Dental Chair abolished.—I guarantee absolute painless treatment in all my work, and by my own device. I successfully do away with PLATES by the modern method of **Bar and Bridge Work.** Nurse always in attendance. All Extractions absolutely painless.

The following Testimonial speaks for itself:

DEAR SIR,—I have been very satisfied with the excellent and easy fitting double plates which you have made for me. Within a period of over six years I have had five different plates made by highly recommended dentists in the States and Canada, but I have had to discard them owing to their bad fit. This speaks most favourably for your special way of treating a difficult formation of roof in so satisfactory a way. Wishing you all success,

I remain, yours sincerely,

R. J. C. WOLSELEY.

Stafford, March 16th, 1914.

PLEASE NOTE ADDRESS—

435, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

THE VOTE.

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

FRIDAY August, 14th, 1914.

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

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

EDITORIAL.

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

SUBSCRIPTION RATE.

At Home and Abroad ... 6/6 per annum, post free.

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

THE WAR FEVER—AND AFTER.

The War is spreading North, South, East and West, the eagles of battle are flying. Belgium invaded. Holland threatened. Italy summoned to take part in the carnival of slaughter; but, so far, holding aloof. Great Britain already engaged, and sending out her sons by thousands. Such are the sensations that have crowded upon us during the past few days. Meanwhile domestic affairs are at a standstill. Woman's emancipation, the Irish question, a hundred matters that concern the life of the people are set aside. The energies of the greatest nations in the world are concentrated on the destruction of all that every one of them holds dear.

Inexpressibly strange and revolting as the present situation is, we must try to grasp it. There is here no hideous nightmare, but a reality. In what manner are we to deal with it? How is the horror to be ended? How are women and children to be saved from lingering death by cold and starvation? How, while the war fever continues to rage, are its effects to be minimised?

The first consideration we would put forward is that this war is the logical result of causes that have been in operation since 1870. Then two great nations stood one against the other in deadly conflict. One was prepared. Great and subtle brains were available to guide the vast machinery which had been gradually built up, and the nation moved as one; the other, full of courage, was unprepared and badly led. The result, so far as those nations were concerned, we know. In Europe generally the result was still more disastrous. For then began the reign of militarism. The diplomatic persons who, to the undoing of the nations, govern their destinies, in terror of the unpreparedness that brought France to her knees, have been increasing their war material and making it more deadly. Vainly have the democracies cried out against this awful expenditure; it has gone on steadily.

Germany, or rather the war caste in that great country, has taken the lead in this gruesome game. The politicians of our own and other nations have followed suit. Millions of money, accumulated in peace time; and thousands upon thousands of miserably paid workers have, year after year, been sacrificed to the business of heaping up armaments, while the cleverest of mechanical brains have been requisitioned to make death-dealing machines more

deadly. Had the tremendous international energy thrown into that which makes for wholesale destruction been given to the work of drawing women and men—mothers, fathers, workers—into so close a union one with the other that, free from bitterness, and inspired with the spirit of mutual love and trust, they could have made a bulwark, strong and indivisible, against the breaking out of war epidemics, we should not now be in the grip of the war fiend.

But mere lamenting would be worse than useless. Our present business is to deal with facts as they face us. What, we ask, should be the attitude of women, in the present crisis?

First: Let us remember and be true to our own principles! Men, or rather politicians, with their war material, represent physical force. "Obey me," says a powerful nation, or a financial syndicate, or a commercial company, to those weaker than themselves, "otherwise we will crush you!"

Against this physical force theory we have incessantly striven. The time has come for us to do more. On our own reading of the universe, on our own understanding of the teaching given to the world by the great masters of humanity, let us take our stand! We know that there is a force more potent in the long run than armies and navies; that force we invoke. It is spiritual. It manifests itself in the love which binds life to life. Actuated by this, we shall have no bitterness in our national feeling. For instance, there are many strangers within our gates. Some of them belong to the nations with which we are at war. Recognising the soreness of their straits, let us treat them with special kindness and consideration. This is particularly incumbent on women of the Suffrage Societies, who have received such generous hospitality from men and women abroad. Never can those who were present at the Budapest Woman Suffrage Congress last year forget the reception accorded to them there.

Further, let us assert and constantly maintain what is the actual truth that there is no quarrel between the Peoples. We hope one of the results of this war will be to bring that truth into the light, and no better service can women render to the world than to bear the torch of mutual love and goodwill into its dark places. For if the oneness of humanity in the boundless life of the universe is recognised; if, after the great orgy of physical force is over, men and women are permitted to take their proper share in the work of statescraft, such wars as now periodically devastate the nations will become impossible. It may even be that the crude idea of the Balance of Power, which has wrought incalculable damage, will be replaced by one finer and nobler. In the near future we may see a European concert, or better, a World Federation, represented by a great international Council, whose business it will be to regulate the steps which must be taken towards international disarmament and to arbitration on the questions that may threaten to divide the nations.

To quote from the current number of *The Nation*, "The War, inspired by a state of universal and accumulated fear, is by groups rather than by nations."

This can never be again. "In the hour of reflection to which Europe will be summoned as the war draws to an end, the minds of all men will

THE SIGN POST.

WAR OR "THE RED STAR."

It is War. War everywhere—by air, by sea, by land.

Surely the "Red Star" has "beckoned with its mailed hand" and the red atoms of our economy have answered to The Call.

This is truly Man's world; and the biggest work, the greatest invention of his brain, the noblest faculties of his soul, are all turned to the service of this great all absorbing enterprise—War.

It has its splendid side. Ah, yes; we confess it willingly.

Courage, self-sacrifice, devotion; all these things has War enlisted on its side—not for one Nation only, let us mark. The same spirit thrills through the Belgian, the French, the German soldier, as animates our own men; and the same conviction lies firmly rooted in the depths of all their hearts, that they, each of them, are giving themselves for their country and the right. It is not "my country, right or wrong," it is "my country, and 'God defend the Right' in which my country is."

Yes; they all call on God. The God of the Old Testament. "The God of battles, of storms and thunders—The God Who, like a giant, awaketh out of sleep, whose arrows are sent abroad, who smiteth great kings and divers peoples—The Lord God of Hosts, Who is to make our enemies our footstool."

That is where we still are—any year B.C.

Norman Angel's voice has been heard. We have studied his calm judicial point of view; we see the loss, the folly, the impossibility—as it were—of War; and yet six civilised European Christian nations have plunged into it.

They all regret it! They none of them want it! But they are in the thick of it. In the twinkling of an eye, diplomacy fails, Ambassadors are recalled, War is here.

Men must fight—and women? Must they still weep? No; the "Red Star" has touched them too. They are not behind the scenes; they have pulled no wires; they loathe War and all they know it brings. Not for them the call to spirited deeds, to high enterprise, to gallant charges. Those who can and may go forth to serve the broken and wounded, to see the *price*, but not the prize, of this terrible, wonderful adventure. Yet they bid their sons, their husbands, their brothers, God's speed. Women who stay at home may also serve in helping the needy and distressed by joining such organisations as Mrs. Despard has founded. Their country—their's, too, though they speak and hear but from the background—has called; and men and women, too, cannot choose but answer.

We believe we go into this War, at any rate, with clean hands and a clear conscience. It was impossible, for national honour, to stand aside. But from out the din and clash of arms, the smoke and thunder of battle, the blood and fire, let the Vision rise, let it rise even now of a time when such things shall indeed be impossible; when together, with wisdom and love joining hands, the men and women of this world shall turn from the narrow view that bids one nation seek advantage of another nation, makes the good of one the evil of another; shall turn from the old dispensation to the new, shall see the Vision Splendid of the Holy Mount wherein the Lion and the Lamb may dwell in Peace, and the time shall be hastened when this world, which has been "given to the children of men" shall be restored as the Kingdom wherein dwelleth Righteousness.

MARY MAUD.

turn instinctively to the question of a complete change of political organisation." That is our hope; but, in the meantime, realising the duty we owe to the women of the country, we must act.

An emergency meeting of the National Executive Committee of our League was held last Monday. In spite of the very short notice it was exceedingly well attended. After an interesting discussion it was decided to send the Manifesto, which appears on page 2, to the papers. It includes the resolution, which will be sent to all our Branches.

We are confident that our members will respond to this appeal and offer any service in their power.

C. DESPARD.

ON OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

Wheat and Woman, By Georgina Binnie-Clark.
(Heinemann, 6s.)

This is a remarkable book by a woman who would hesitate to accept the same adjective applied to herself. Nevertheless, the word is hardly too strong to offer to Miss Binnie-Clark, who has fought her way to success in the Canadian West through difficulties which at times came upon her in battalions, when even as single spies they would have seemed overpowering to the average woman accustomed to prairie life and methods.

As a proof of what a woman alone can do as a small-holder, under trying conditions, the book is immensely enlightening; as a human document it is even more so. Every page reveals a story of pluck, perseverance, cheerfulness and tolerance which it does one good to read. In fact this tale of the experiences of an Englishwoman who took up land for herself and farmed it alone; of the many tests of her character and of her powers of endurance; and of the difficulties in the way of all women farming in the West, is read with the breathless interest as to "what comes next," usually bestowed upon a novel of incident and of character combined.

No student of what is usually called the "Woman question," should neglect "Woman and Wheat"; but the woman reader with eyes turned towards the free and prosperous West, should make up her mind first that she is as exceptional a woman as Miss Binnie-Clark herself. Otherwise disaster is fairly sure to overtake her efforts to farm alone, hampered as she is, in the first place, by the Homestead Law, and later by circumstances, climate, loneliness; the difficulties which surround the obtaining of reliable "hired men," no matter at what price, and many others which develop as time goes on.

Canada, as the author states, in effect, does not encourage women to take up land. The Government gives the reason quite frankly. It fears that if the 160 acres, granted free to any man who will accept the land and work it under certain conditions, were granted also to single women it might make them even more independent of marriage as a career than they are now. Population is the urgent need of Western Canada, and the men must be induced to make their homes on the prairie, and the home implies a wife and children. This objection on the part of the Government is not unreasonable in a country where the men outnumber the women by hundreds of thousands, but it is hard upon the woman who wants to farm. A similar property to that which cost Miss Binnie-Clark \$5,000 (about one thousand pounds) could have been obtained by any man for less than two hundred pounds (see page 396), so that in addition to some disadvantage in working out a farm proposition the woman has the extra payments as well—another instance of "the woman pays!"

Miss Binnie-Clark contributes a sound remark to the Suffrage controversy, which is commended to the attention of persons on both sides who indulge in generalities.

She says, "The strongest point, pressing forward the coming of Woman Suffrage, lies in one of the remarkably few indiscretions among laws made by men for women—woman's compulsory contribution of money towards the support of the State; because it is a definite acknowledgment of woman's direct relation to money, which, always the chief factor, has become through the power of laws, tainted with the self-interest of the wealth-possessed sex, the ruling force of civilisation. The solid argument which delays equal suffrage is the fact that man has the full force of wealth on his side of the scale."

MARY MACLEOD MOORE.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.



DARE TO BE FREE.

Mr. J. Y. Kennedy and Mrs. Hyde. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m.

Monday, August 24.—CLAPHAM (1, Imperial Mansions, Bromell's-road). Branch meeting, 7.30.

Sunday, August 30.—BROCKWELL PARK, 11.30. Mrs. Tanner. REGENT'S PARK, noon. Miss Underwood and Mr. Darby. CLAPHAM COMMON, 6 p.m.

PROVINCES.

Monday, August 17.—GRAYS. Open-air meeting, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner.

Monday, August 31.—GRAYS. Open-air meeting, 8 p.m. Speaker, Miss F. A. Underwood.

Thursday, September 3.—MIDDLESBROUGH (Hinton's Café). Business meeting.

Brighton and Worthing Campaign.

Saturday, August 15.—BRIGHTON. The Front, 11.30.

Monday, August 17.—WORTHING. Fish Market, 3 p.m.

Tuesday, August 18.—BRIGHTON. The Front, 3 p.m.

Speakers: Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Miss Rushbrooke, Miss Trott, etc.

NORTH WALES CAMPAIGN.

August 17 to August 24.—ABERYSTWYTH (c/o Post-office). Meetings on the Beach daily. Speaker, Miss Anna Munro. Organiser, Miss A. M. Clark.

OTHER SOCIETIES.

Friday, August 21.—BRIGHTON (Reform Diet Summer School). Miss Nina Boyle, on "The Future of the Race." 8 p.m.

BRANCH NOTES.

Mid-London.

It is advisable that all Branch members should meet now, if possible, and discuss future arrangements. Therefore, contrary to our usual custom in August, we are having a meeting at 1, Robert-street next Monday, August 17, at 7.30 p.m. Will all members in Town make an effort to be present?

OUR CAMPAIGNS.

On the Clyde.

Unfortunately, the weather last week was very unfavourable, and owing to incessant rain we were compelled to abandon several meetings. Others, however, proved specially interesting, those on Thursday being most impressive. In all probability, before this is in print, the Clyde Campaign may have to be brought to a close, as the International war crisis has already made itself felt on the Clyde. Thousands of visitors had to hurry back to their homes and others have cancelled their proposed visits. In view of the frightful conflict, more hideous than any calamity that has ever been, it behoves every woman to strive more determinedly than ever for the sake of the human race to secure the freedom of women; it is only when women are admitted into the counsels of the nations that war with its untold horrors and suffering will cease.

North Wales Campaign.

The campaign was continued in Rhyl until August 4; the greatest enthusiasm prevailed at all meetings. Several men showed their appreciation by avowing themselves henceforth staunch supporters of our Cause. Miss Anna Munro spoke at each meeting, and dealt with the various objections to Woman Suffrage; her statements elicited the greatest applause from the audience. At the final meeting, which lasted for over two hours, the enthusiasm was intense, and at the close Miss Munro was given three hearty cheers, the visitors and residents expressing their regret at our departure. Several new members were enrolled; THE VOTE sold splendidly, also other Suffrage

literature. I have every hope of forming a Branch of the Women's Freedom League in Rhyl in the near future.

Alix M. Clark.

Regents Park.

The Mid-London Branch held its usual meeting last Sunday at noon. The speakers were Miss Eggett and Mr. Darby, with Miss Killingworth in the chair. This was the first occasion on which Mr. Darby, who is an associate of the League, had spoken from our platform in Regent's Park. He drew a good crowd and spoke of the position of women from a war standpoint; their sacrifices and willingness to help in times of national stress, which point of view appeared to impress the audience greatly.

OUR INTERNATIONAL COLUMN.

In Memory of Madame Nordica—Suffragist.

A group of music lovers in New York propose to erect a statue to the late Madame Lillian Nordica, to be placed in Central Park. Madame Nordica, who was a great artist, was also a strong Suffragist. Only a few weeks before her death she sent the following message to a Woman Suffrage paper in Australia:—"The ballot is only a symbol. We are not working against men. We want to work with them. A woman's nature cannot be changed, and the ballot will not change it. It is as fair to say that because a woman's place is in the home she cannot vote, control her property and make the laws, as it is to say that because her place is in the home she cannot go to a ball game. And don't forget the golden rule. That is the thing that will make everything different. I said I was for Woman Suffrage. I am for more—I am for women."

The Chautauqua and Women Suffrage.

The Chautauqua has been, from its birth in 1874, the friend of women's progress. In 1875 Frances E. Willard, the world's greatest temperance leader, lectured at the second gathering. She was not a Suffragist in her first years of public work, but eventually the logic of the situation overcame her, and she came out as an uncompromising advocate of Woman Suffrage. She found that women organised to carry social reforms could get nowhere without the ballot.

The fortieth anniversary, which this year is being celebrated at Chautauqua, N.Y., will find a strong array of the leading women of the country as speakers. The list includes: Dr. Katharine Bement Davis (Commissioner of Corrections), Mrs. Percy V. Pennybacker (President of the General Federation of Clubs), Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman (noted feminist and writer), Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt (President of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance), and Mrs. Maud Ballington Booth. Each of these women, far famed in her own particular sphere, is a strong Suffragist.

The BRODERIE RUSSE

289, Regent Street, W.

SPECIALISE IN

TAPESTRY, FILET, BARO,
and all White Embroideries.

TRACED & COMMENCED WORK
LESSONS GIVEN.

Make the home bright by using

William CLARKE & SON'S

COAL.

LOWEST SUMMER PRICES.

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

WOMEN'S FREEDOM:
FORESHADOWINGS IN FICTION.

By L. A. M. PRIESTLEY. Author of the "Love Stories of Some Eminent Women," &c.

The new spirit and new outlook respecting Woman permeates George Meredith's novels. His women have individuality and independence. They live and move and have their being, not in a fortress of man's making, but in the unenclosed space that belongs to human initiative and choice. There could be no greater proof surely of the advance in Woman's position than this emancipation of the heroine from the old traditional trammels of passivity and feebleness, and nowhere is it more finely exemplified than in the pages of Meredith.

Perhaps nearest in affinity to our modern woman rebel comes his "Diana of the Crossways." Her story is a protest against the social and legal code that exonerates man and condemns woman where difficulty or disagreement arises in marital life. A young, beautiful and unprotected girl, Diana, finds marriage not the safe harbourage she had hoped for, but the prelude to shipwreck and disaster. Her husband, who is not her true mate, or equal, becomes jealous of her innocent friendship with an elderly statesman, and, after benefiting by this friendship in securing a lucrative post by Lord Dannesburgh's influence, he subjects her to the ordeal of divorce proceedings. The following passages show something of the views and feelings of the misjudged wife, whose brilliant intellect and rapier-like wit are a mask for the woman's sensitive and suffering heart.

"The wild brain of Diana armed by her later enlightenment as to the laws of life and nature dashed in revolt at the laws of the world when she thought of the forces, natural and social, urging young women to marry and be bound to the end.

It should be a spotless world which is thus ruthless. But were the world impeccable it would behave more generously."

"A woman's brutallest tussle with the world was upon her. She was in the arena of the savage claws flung there by the man who, of all others, should have protected her from them. And what had she done to deserve it? . . . Such are men in the world of fact that when a woman steps out of her domestic tangle to assert, because it is a tangle, her rights to personal independence, they sight her for their prey, or at least they complacently suppose her accessible. Wretched at home, a woman ought to bury herself in her wretchedness, else she may be assured that not the cleverest, warriest guard will cover her character."

"The world is hostile to the face of an innocence not conventionally simpering and quite surprised. The world prefers decorum to honesty. 'Let me be myself, whatever the martyrdom,' Diana cried. Yet, in common with her sisterhood, she owned she had worn a sort of mask; the world demanded it of them as the price of their station. That she had never worn it consentingly was the plea for now casting it off altogether; showing herself as she was, accepting martyrdom, becoming the first martyr in the modern woman's Cause—a grand position! She was then this martyr, a woman capable of telling the world she knew it and of confessing that she had behaved in disdain of its rigid rules according to her own ideas of her immunities. O, brave!"

These words come home to the militant Suffragist. She, too, behaves in disdain of the world's "rigid rules," according to her own ideas of duty.

When Diana talks with her friend Emma (between whom there is a "classic friendship" dispelling men's doubts of the possibility of women's mutual devotedness), naturally the theme is often woman:—

"The English notion of women," said Emma, "seems to be that we are born white sheep or black; circumstances have nothing to do with our colour. They dread to grasp distinctions, and to judge of us discerningly is beyond them. Whether the fiction that their homes are purer than elsewhere helps to establish the fact I do not

know; there is a class that does live honestly, and, at any rate, it springs from a liking for purity, but I'm sure that their method of impressing it on women has the dangers of things artificial. They narrow their understanding of human nature, and that is not the way to improve the breed."

"I suppose we women are taken to be second thoughts of the Creator, human nature's fringes, mere finishing touches, not a part of the texture," said Diana, "the pretty ornamentation. However, I fancy I perceive some tolerance growing in the minds of the dominant sex. Our old lawyer, who appears to have no distaste for conversations with me, assures me he expects the days to come when women will be encouraged to work for their independence. That is the secret of the opinion of us at present—our dependency. Give us the means of independence and we will gain it, and have a turn at judging you, my Lords! You shall behold a world reversed. Whenever I am distracted by existing circumstances I lay my finger on the material conditions, and I touch the secret. Individually it may be moral wrongs with us; collectively it is material—gross wrongs, gross hungers. I am a married rebel, and thereof comes the social rebel."

To be continued.

THE SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES AND THE NATIONAL CRISIS.

The National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies.

The President, Mrs. Henry Fawcett, made an appeal to the members of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies to "bind themselves together for the purpose of rendering the greatest possible aid to the country at this momentous epoch." On August 8 the Executive decided that the National Union as an organisation should give its services through its affiliated societies for the relief of distress caused by economic and industrial dislocation. The societies of the Union have therefore been requested to send at once a letter to the Lord Mayors, Mayors or Chairmen of Councils placing their services at their disposal.

The offices at the headquarters at 14, Great Smith-street, are already being organised as a Labour Exchange Bureau for voluntary work, for receiving, classifying and distributing offers of help.

The East London Federation of the Suffragists.

The Federation have offered to the Mayor of Poplar all possible services to the distress committees to be formed in East London to deal with the distress occasioned by the present war. They have also offered the Women's Hall and other premises in their possession as relief depots.

The Women's Emergency Corps.

Started by three leading Suffragists of The Actresses' Franchise League—Miss Decima Moore, Miss Eva Moore and Miss Lena Ashwell—the Women's Emergency Corps, in the few days of its existence, has already enrolled 2,000 women, and applications continue every day and all day at the Headquarters *pro tem*. The Little Theatre. Only after having passed one of the authorised examiners and experts is any woman enrolled, but the number of women qualified in many ways to render service is astonishing. They include women who can bring their own horses, ride, groom and provide forage for them and clean out stables; women who can drive motors, do running repairs; women who will take charge of crèches, also of older children; cooks, clerks, cyclists, etc., etc. The aim is to organise and register them, but special care is given to avoid any interference by voluntary workers with the ordinary paid labour of women; also to prevent overlapping with other schemes of help and existing organisations. The International Suffrage Alliance is exerting itself energetically on behalf of foreign women in London.

THE FREE CHURCH LEAGUE FOR WOMEN SUFFRAGE has issued an excellent report of work in 1913, showing development in many directions, among them the splendid success of the Women's Meeting, held for the first time in the history of the Congregational Union at the Autumn Assembly, and also a success that is historic of the Women's Session at the Norwich Congress of the National Free Church Federation, and the National Week of Prayer which, in London, culminated in the memorable meeting of the Religious Leagues at the Caxton Hall. The League has now its office, through the courtesy of Mr. Francis, at 13, Breems-buildings; Secretary, Miss Beatrice C. M. Brown. Its monthly publication, *The Free Church Suffrage Times*, continues to render good service to the Cause under the editorship of Miss Turquand.

ONE
PENNY

THE VOTE

WEEKLY

Organ of the Women's Freedom League.

Islington Dental Surgery.

60, UPPER STREET, N.
Mr. CHODWICK BROWN, Surgeon Dentist,
Mr. Fredk. G. Boucher, Assistant Dental Surgeon.
Established 35 Years.

Gas Administered Daily by qualified Medical Man, Fee 7/6.
Nurse in attendance. Mechanical Work in all its Branches.
Send Postcard for Pamphlet. N.B.—No Showcase at door.
CONSULTATIONS FREE. Telephone 3795 North.

DO YOU WANT GOOD VALUE FOR MONEY ?
If so, do your shopping with the firms that advertise in
"THE VOTE," You help them, they help us; everybody
is satisfied.

ALSO: Tell them you support them because they
support "THE VOTE," and send your receipt for the
amount spent, to the Advertisement Manager, "THE
VOTE," 2, Robert Street, Adelphi, London, W.C.

Holland House Laundry,
BURMESTER ROAD, LOWER TOOTING.

Mrs. PIPER, Proprietress. Telephone: Wimbledon 504.
A FAMILY LAUNDRY, under Distinguished Patronage
MY PRICES ARE MODERATE.
— Customers of over 20 years' standing. —

A. SHAPCOTT, Tel. 1443
81, GEORGE STREET, CROYDON.

WIZARD, ELECTRIC AND
HAND VACUUM CLEANERS
FREE DEMONSTRATIONS.

SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES' MEETINGS.

WE accept Announcements of Suffrage
and kindred Meetings for this Column
at the rate per single insertion of 2s.
for 24 words, 1d. every additional
word; four insertions at the price of
three. All Announcements must be
Prepaid, and, to ensure insertion,
copy should reach the ADVERTISEMENT
MANAGER, VOTE Office, 2, Robert-st.,
Adelphi, London, by the *First Post on
Monday Morning.*

THE MID-LONDON BRANCH of
the Women's Freedom League
holds open-air Meetings in Regent's
Park every Sunday at 12 o'clock.
Speakers next Sunday: Miss Munro
and Miss Killingworth.

LITERARY.

**PLAYS, DUOLOGUES, MONO-
LOGUES,** dealing with all phases
of the Woman's Movement, 3d and 6d.
For Drawing-rooms, Platforms, or Stage
purposes. Descriptive List (2d.) post
free on application.—ACTRESSES' FRAN-
CHISE LEAGUE, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi.

JAEGER
Fine Pure Wool
The Overknicker.



Being made of a fine
close knitting, it clings
perfectly to the figure.
An ideal garment for
comfort with the pres-
ent fashions.

To be seen at Jaeger Depots:
126, Regent St., W.
456, Strand, W.C.
30, Sloane St., S.W.
102, Kensington High St.,
W.
115, Victor a St., S.W.
85 & 86, Cheapside, E.C.

A Jaeger Agent in every
important town. Address
on request.

Knitted-Knickers
close-fitting, knee
or ankle length,
closed or open.
From 6/9

Illustrated List and Dr.
Jaeger's "Health Culture"
post free on request.

Miscellaneous Advertisements.

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

CHARGES:

Change of Air	...	First 15 words, 1s.
Educational	...	Each additional 7 words, or
Boarding Houses and	...	part of 7 words, 6d.
Pensions	...	Four consecutive insertions'
Houses and flats	...	for the price of three; if
Professional	...	prepaid
Ladies' Businesses &	...	Partnerships
Exchange and Sale	...	First 15 words,
Home Produce & Domestic Pets	...	6d.
Employment	...	Each Additional
Recommended Servants	...	7 words or part
Governesses, Companions, and	...	of 7 words, 6d.
Lady Helps	...	

BOARD-RESIDENCE.

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

A LADY, possessing a home with
every luxury, would be pleased to
Receive a few PAYING GUESTS.
Every care to those requiring special
rest and diet. Food reform if desired.
—ELTON Moss, 1, Osborne-villas, Hove,
Brighton.

IDEAL restful holiday during war,
under specially favourable con-
ditions. Mansion in beautifully-
wooded grounds, several acres, near
sea, best residential district; lectures,
games, etc.; inclusive terms 1½ to 2
guineas weekly.—Send for prospectus,
Mr. and Mrs. MASSINGHAM, 17, Nor-
folk-terrace, Brighton. Lectures by
Dr. Haden Guest on "Forcible
Feeding"; Miss Nina Boyle, "The
Future of the Race"; Rev. Priestley
Prime, "The Man and Woman
Question," etc.

APARTMENTS, with or without
board; moderate terms; clean;
electric light; Danish management.—
M.P.U., 39, Mortimer Street.

RAMSGATE. — Board Residence,
Good, Close Sea, 21/- week.
Member, 23, Augusta Road.

FURNISHED SUITES and BED-
SITTING-ROOMS. Central,
quiet. Newly decorated.—22, Old
Burlington-st. Gerrard 3101.

TO LET.

CLAPTON.—Well-furnished FLAT
(self-contained), Dining-room,
Lounge, 3 Bedrooms, Kitchen (gas
stoves, etc.), Bathroom (h. and c.),
every convenience, near station, one
minute 'bus and cars. Rent moderate.
Or exchange for Seaside Residence.—
Write, COOMBE, 12, Kinnoull, Man-
sions, Rowhill Road.

BEXHILL. — To Let, furnished,
Bungalow; garden suburb; Three
guineas September; Two guineas
winter months; 1 sitting, 4 bedrooms,
bath, electric light.—P., 5, St. Peter's
Square, Hammersmith.

BOOKS.

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

BUSINESS. &c.

MRS. AYRES PURDIE, A.L.A.A.,
recovers overpaid Income Tax,
buys or sells STOCKS and SHARES,
effects all kinds of INSURANCES or
ANNUITIES, mortgages loans on rever-
sions, or any business of a legal or
financial nature.—Hampton House,
3, Kingsway. Phone: 6049 Central.

WOMEN'S INVENTIONS.—How
to patent an invention and
sell it.—Mr. HUGHES, 140, Wool
Exchange, London.

MISCELLANEOUS.

EXTRAORDINARY SALE BAR-
GAINS!—Ladies' fine Mull
Handkerchiefs, printed border with
any initial embroidered, 2/6 per doz.,
postage 3d. Summer Irish Linen
Sale Catalogue free.—HURTON'S 166,
Larne, Ireland.

SAFETY AT LAST!!
Ask for "Veroid" non-inflammable.
Ladies' Fancy Combs, plain or jewelled.

Recommended and Sold by
HARROD'S STORES, Hairdressing and
Haby. Depts.

SELFRIDGE & Co., LTD., Hairdressing Dept.
DEBENHAM & FREEBODY (Fancy Dept.).

In Scotland:
P S F. TENSFELDT, 122, Princess-street,
Edinburgh.

See that every article is stamped as this
VEROID * Non-Inflammable, in a small
circle.

Refuse all Similar Names.
For Shipping and Wholesale only.
THE VEROID & Co., 17, WELL STREET,
LONDON, E.C.