

THE VOTE.
September 21, 1912.
ONE PENNY.

AUTOMATIC REPRESENTATION. BY LAURENCE HOUSMAN

THE VOTE

THE ORGAN OF THE WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

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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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NO TIME FOR SUFFRAGETTIN'!



LOCAL MAGNATE: "Sorry to see you're still unemployed, Bill; but I'm glad your wife's given up attending those silly Women's Suffrage Meetings. Woman's place is the Home, and I daresay you're glad to have her there."

BILL: "Yus—when I ain't got sumfink better for her to do. Tork about hunemployment! I wuz kep pretty busy larst week any 'ow, findin' 'er three new places to wash at! She ain't got no time for suffragettin'!"

OUR POINT OF VIEW.

Will Britain Lag Behind?

The news from Hungary, that the Government intends to include women in the Reform Bill to be introduced this autumn, is both gratifying and significant. A victory anywhere is a victory for the Cause, and if Hungary leaves Britain lagging behind, it will emphasise the want of logic and of courage shown by British statesmen, who, in spite of constant decisions of the House of Commons, and the long agitation in this country in favour of woman suffrage, insult British women by allowing a Manhood Suffrage Bill to be introduced into the Mother of Parliaments. On hearing the good news from Hungary, a telegram was at once sent on behalf of the Women's Freedom League, signed by the President, to Miss Rosika Schwimmer, secretary of the Hungarian Woman Suffrage Society, as follows:—

Women's Freedom League warmly congratulates Hungarian women on prospect of enfranchisement. We appreciate Hungary's love of freedom and splendid example to less progressive Governments.—DESPARD.

The Hungarian Prime Minister, Dr. Ladislaus von Lukacs, pointed out to a deputation of suffragists which waited on him last month that he had always spoken of the *People's*, never of *Men's*, Suffrage, and had thus kept the way open for the inclusion of women. We recommend those of our readers who do not already subscribe to the interesting monthly organ of the International Women Suffrage Alliance to purchase a copy of *Jus Suffragii* for September, price 4d. (to be obtained from the W.F.L. Literature Department), and see what Miss Schwimmer says of the prospects of victory. It will be remembered that next June the International Alliance will hold its Congress at Budapest, and it is quite possible that the women of Hungary will then have won their citizenship. As our news columns show, there is a good prospect, according to Dr. Jino Naruse, President of the Women's University of Tokio, that Japanese women will soon be granted the franchise on an educational qualification. Portugal has out-distanced England, Sweden is near the goal, Iceland also; now Hungary, and even Japan. These are significant signs of the times. Will Mr. Asquith heed? Will Mr. Redmond continue to imagine that a Home Rule Bill for men will satisfy Ireland as a nation? We maintain that the progress of other nations puts to shame Britain's boasted superiority, and that Mr. Asquith and his Cabinet will go down to history as the champions who vaunted their care for "the people," but denied both the letter and spirit of freedom and democracy by keeping half "the people"—women—in the category of lunatics.

Equals.

The world has been startled by the devotion of General Nogi to the late Emperor of Japan; in the spirit of the old Samurai, the hero of Port Arthur took his life on the day of the Mikado's funeral. But the fact must not be overlooked that the Countess Nogi showed equal courage and devotion. Bushido morality is quite definite on the rights and obligations of women. The Japanese of olden days had no qualms about a woman's prowess in arms; she was trained in their use. She learned to swing the Naginata, the long-handled sword, and from early youth was always armed with a dagger. Under Bushido she learned to control her feelings, to harden her nerves, and to be ready to put her skill in arms to the test. The suicide of Countess Nogi is regarded as the latest triumph of Bushido. In their own home, dressed in full Japanese costume, after having drunk a final draught together in honour of the late Emperor, Count and Countess Nogi, on hearing the gun fired announcing the departure of the funeral procession from the palace, died by their own hands. We may respect the tradition of the past which prompts such deeds, but while the modern spirit sees the greater service in life, not in death, we acclaim the fact that in this death of devotion there was no sex distinction.

Man-made Law.

We continue to receive from all parts of the country expressions of gratitude that every week the inequality of justice meted out to women and men under the man-made British law finds record in *THE VOTE*. Grievous and terrible as are the cases, that of Daisy Williams, sentenced a few days ago by Mr. Justice Lush to eighteen months' imprisonment, while the vile creature who was the cause of all the trouble goes scot free, is heartrending. Little wonder that women are driven to desperate deeds to win the right of making their voices heard in legislation, when such unequal justice can exist. It is the old story: the girl compelled to fight for her existence at fourteen, trapped by a man, earning £2 10s. a week; she resists, but is overcome by his promise of fidelity; he thrusts her down to a life of prostitution, taunts her with being there, drives her mad by associating with another woman. Then comes her revenge—she kills her rival. At seventeen, she is a murderess, and Mr. Justice Lush, haranguing her, considers a sentence of eighteen months lenient! The majesty of the law, truly! The poor little victim of wretched conditions and man-made law suffers in prison; the villain is free to continue unhampered his deadly work of destruction. Thus is a woman's life valued. The womanhood of the nation must rise against this iniquity.

Male Law Breakers.

Riot and revolvers—this is the story of how men break the law in Belfast when political feeling runs high. Nor was it a sudden outburst, which, according to our statesman, condones violence, for though the cause still remains a mystery, the scene of a football contest became practically a battlefield in Belfast last Saturday, and revolvers were conveniently ready for use. *The Daily Telegraph*, which rages and fumes over militant women, commenting on the Belfast riot, sees deep-seated causes of momentous gravity as provoking the excitement and fury, and declares that "history proves that rebellions are justified as actual aids to the evolution of a nation," adding that "our present controversy about Ulster cannot be summarily dismissed with the facile syllogism that, as all rebellions are wrong, and certain prominent politicians appear to foment strife, those who thus encourage rebellion are acting illegally." And lo, the anti-suffragist organ calls in among others as witnesses to the truth of the right of resistance, "those patriots who resisted the exactions of King Charles." The moral, according to *The Telegraph* is, if you commit violence as an anti-Home Ruler, you are taking part in one of those rare occasions of justifiable rebellion; if you are a militant suffragist, prison and torture are your due. Thus do men deal with men—and women. But as to other men law-breakers we call the attention of our readers to Mrs. Ayres Purdie's article in another column, which shows how the Liberal Government, so severe upon women law-breakers, flouts an Act of Parliament—affecting women—when it can thus conveniently fill the Treasury to the extent of two and a half million sterling every year. Why, we demand, should the Married Women's Property Act be legal sometimes and illegal at others? And it is to men who act in this way that women are advised to commit their concerns. It is these things that make women rebels—and they do well to rebel against such injustice.

The Women's March.

We commend the women's march from London to Edinburgh to the consideration of our readers in the hope that some will find it possible to enrol themselves for this five weeks' suffrage campaign. Arrangements are being made to ensure the maximum of comfort possible in the circumstances. It will be a novel demonstration that women want the vote, and the Suffrage gospel will be preached in towns and villages on the way. Suffragists who live on the line of route will be able to join the marchers, or at least speed them on their way to the climax—a great gathering in Edinburgh, demonstrating women's determination to win their badge of citizenship.

WOMEN'S FREEDOM LEAGUE.

Offices: 1, ROBERT STREET, ADELPHI.

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AT HEADQUARTERS.

Trafalgar-square Meeting.

The Trafalgar-square meeting on Saturday afternoon, September 21, is an important part of our programme as it will begin the serious work of the Women's Freedom League this winter. We are pleased to acknowledge the co-operation of the Men's League for Woman Suffrage in this Demonstration, and their banner, as on many other previous occasions, will be with ours on the plinth of Nelson's Column. All helpers (banner bearers, stewards, collectors, sellers and bill distributors) are requested to meet Mrs. Fisher at this office between 3 and 3.30 Saturday afternoon. They should all be in the Square before 3.45; the meeting will begin promptly at 4 o'clock. Readers are referred to "Forthcoming Events" for the names of our speakers.

South London Campaign.

To advertise our Trafalgar-square meeting, Mrs. Tanner is this week running evening open-air meetings at Kennington, Battersea, Clapham, and Brixton; she is also organising a Chalking Brigade, and will be pleased to hear from those who are willing to chalk in various parts of London on the mornings of Friday and Saturday, September 20 and 21.

Caxton Hall Public Meetings.

The meeting arranged for Wednesday afternoon, September 25, has a specially attractive programme, and we urge our friends to come in great numbers to welcome Mr. D. M. Mason, Liberal M.P. for Coventry, who, at its first reading, moved the rejection of the Franchise Bill now before Parliament because it did not include women. Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson will also speak, the chair being taken promptly at 3.30 by Mrs. Huntsman.

These public meetings will be held regularly at Caxton Hall on Wednesday afternoons; some of the speakers during October being the Rev. F. M. Green, Mrs. Cunningham, Mr. Cameron Grant, Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Mr. Laurence Housman and Sir John Cockburn. We note with pleasure that our Glasgow Branch has secured Mr. D. M. Mason, M.P., and Mr. Laurence Housman for a meeting October 15, and that Mr. Housman is also speaking at a meeting arranged by our Liverpool Branch on October 16.

Reception to the Delegates of the Men's International Suffrage Alliance.

The Men's International Alliance for Woman Suffrage, which was founded at Stockholm last year, is holding a Conference in London in October, and the Women's Freedom League is arranging a reception in honour of the delegates at Caxton Hall, Monday evening, October 28. Further particulars will be given later, but in the meantime we ask our members and friends to reserve this date so that they can help us to welcome these delegates. In addition to speeches from members of the Men's International Alliance, we hope to have the pleasure of listening to one from Miss Martina Kramers, Editor of *Jus Suffragii*.

Miss Boyle's Scottish and North-Eastern Tours.

During the last week Miss Boyle has been visiting our Dundee, Dunfermline, Edinburgh and Glasgow Branches, and she will bring the campaign in Scotland to a close on Thursday evening, when she will speak with Miss

Eunice Murray at a meeting arranged by Miss Douglas Macintyre, at Kirkintilloch.

Miss Boyle's North-Eastern district tour will begin with a public meeting at South Shields, Tuesday, September 24; the following evening she will take part in a meeting at Sunderland, the 26th at West Hartlepool, the 27th at Bishop Auckland, at an open-air meeting arranged by our Middlesbrough Branch on the 28th, and with Mrs. Nevinson at a public indoor meeting September 30. We wish our North-Eastern Branches every success, and hope that Miss Boyle's visit will give an impetus to their winter's work.

Scottish Work.

Since the close of the Clyde Coast Campaign Miss Anna Munro has been taking a much needed rest. Next week, on her way to Scotland, she will speak with Mrs. Despard at a meeting arranged by our Chester Branch, after which she will work throughout October in Glasgow, Paisley and Dundee, visiting Rothesay and Kirkintilloch, both of which Branches are arranging meetings for her. From November 1 until November 5, Miss Munro will be working in Manchester, returning to London, Wednesday, November 6, to take the chair for Mr. G. E. O'Dell and Mrs. M. W. Nevinson at Caxton Hall. From that date during the winter months, we hope to have Miss Munro's valuable assistance at Headquarters.

International Suffrage Fair Working Parties.

The office of the Women's Freedom League will be open each Wednesday evening from 6 till 9 for all who will bring with them some work for the Fair. Light refreshments will be provided.

F. A. UNDERWOOD.

MIDLOTHIAN ELECTION AND AFTER.

With the utmost joy we—the Edinburgh Branch members, Mrs. Sproson and myself—heard at mid-day on September 11 that we had succeeded in keeping the Liberal out at Midlothian. Next to getting Provost Brown in, that was the best thing that could have happened, and we joined in the general enthusiasm outside the Sheriff's Court in George IV. Bridge. Major Hope personally will be very little help to us, except to vote against the third reading of the Franchise Bill, which he will do, whether women are included or not. The contest had warmed up towards the finish; meetings innumerable were held by all the parties interested, and we had our work cut out for us in the wide area that had to be covered. I have especially to thank Miss Jack, Mrs. Bell, and Miss McLachlan for their unflinching zeal and valuable assistance, which even the worst weather did not quench! The last-mentioned, I know, will not easily forget one specially soaking night, in which she and Mrs. Thomson patiently endured beneath torrents of rain my lengthy oratory at two different meetings. Even at East Carmarthen I do not think I was so thoroughly soaked!

On the last night, Mrs. Sproson and Miss Jack held no fewer than four meetings; and we have no reason to regret our efforts. Not one of our meetings was disturbed and everywhere we met with courtesy. Mrs. Sproson's encounter with Mr. Shaw's chairman was the only untoward incident, and that did us good and him harm; and on going into one of Major Hope's meetings, a noble lord who was holding forth was unceremoniously interrupted in his eloquence by the applause which the appearance

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of the suffragists evoked. That the women are entitled to the credit of keeping the Liberal out cannot be denied or doubted.

On leaving Edinburgh, I pitched my moving tent at Dundee, and held two admirably attended and attentive meetings, the one at the High School Gates in Dundee, and the other at Lochee. The presence of the "young Liberal" in force at Mr. Churchill's meetings on both occasions may have accounted for the absence of rudeness and rowdyism! We had the intense amusement of reading about the unlucky encounter on the Dornoch golf links and the unsuccessful attempt at "ducking" in which Cabinet Ministers played so feeble a part; and I also heard of Miss Clunas's sporting attempt to gain access to the First Lord under the guise of an express package. The "package" was dispatched by Miss Husband, and conveyed by a sympathetic youth; and the Press did not boycott the affair in any way. Mr. Churchill's detectives, however, refused to receive his property!

The treatment of the W.S.P.U. members who interpolated remarks at the meeting of the Liberal women was outrageous. As usual, shameful violence was inflicted by the stewards, and unctuous rectitude was displayed on the platform. A still more serious outrage, however, was that the women ejected were then put under lock and key! So serious a breach of public decency did this appear, and so grave an inroad on the liberty of the subject, that Miss Husband I and sent a protest to the local Press signed with our names. It was published in all three papers.

My next stopping place was Dunfermline, where meetings had been arranged for Lochgelly, Inverkeithing, and the town itself. The Lochgelly meeting was of the ordinary type and well-disposed; but at the afternoon meeting at Inverkeithing, where a large number of the men employed at the naval base works of Rosyth are quartered, there was a very rough element, mainly intoxicated. The uproar, although deafening, was not malevolent or hostile; it was more argumentative, and took the form of all speaking at once! Considering the material I was dealing with—navvies paid at 5d. an hour, and labourers gathered in from all parts, poor, homeless, and only casually employed—I count this meeting as a real triumph, for I certainly succeeded in winning their goodwill. The night meeting in Dunfermline was a splendid one, and I was deeply concerned at having to close it early, to catch the last train to Glasgow.

I have to thank my kind landlady, Mrs. Burnett, in Edinburgh, for a great deal of care and comfort; and Mrs. Sproson will, I know, like me to make the same acknowledgement on her behalf to Mrs. Gray. At Dundee, Miss Husband and her sisters received me with the kindest hospitality, and I enjoyed a delightfully argumentative stay with them! In Dunfermline, Mr. and Mrs. Masterton gave me shelter, and I should like to thank them and Mrs. McCallum for my welcome; and here at Glasgow I am once more under Miss Buntin's roof, than which nothing could be more pleasant.

C. NINA BOYLE.

POLITICAL NEWS.

Votes for Hungarian Women.

Miss Martina Kramers, editor of *Jus Suffragii* and secretary of the International Woman Suffrage Alliance, writing to the Women's Freedom League says:—

"I have just heard that the Hungarian Government proposes to enfranchise the women."

At present the Lower House of the Hungarian Parliament is elected by all male citizens who are twenty years of age and over and pay a small direct tax on house property or land, or income-tax. Miss Rosika Schwimmer, writing in *Jus Suffragii* for September, is enthusiastic as to the prospects of victory for Woman Suffrage, and details the grounds of hope. She says:—

"In June a paper usually informed by people connected with the Government stated that the Government has the intention to give Woman Suffrage to a certain extent in its Parliamentary Reform Bill which is to be brought before the House in the early autumn. At this, the whole Press turned to our cause as if it were the most natural thing in the world. . . ."

The *Monthly Paper of the Men's League for Women's Suffrage*, referring to the visit last month of Herr Ernest Reinitz, hon. secretary of the Hungarian Men's League for Women's Suffrage, says:—"Herr Reinitz stated that the prospects for Women Suffrage in Hungary are very bright at present, as the Government has promised a measure of suffrage reform. It appears that between two and three years ago, when the King opened the Hungarian Parliament, this measure was promised, but the coming into power of the reactionary Agrarian Government frustrated it. The Opposition have, however, given so much trouble in their demand for adult male suffrage that the Government have been compelled to give way, and by way of countering their demand are proposing to extend the suffrage to some women, and only to a small additional proportion of men. The question will be decided in December or October next, and the Hungarian Men's League, in conjunction with the Feminist Union, is carrying on an active campaign by meetings, posters, &c."

Hope for Japanese Women.

According to Dr. Jino Naruse, founder and president of the Women's University at Tokio, the silent and steady growth of the revolutionary women's movement in Japan against the existing status of women, their restricted spheres of activity, and banish-

ment from participation in political affairs, is becoming a force to be reckoned with. In an interview printed in New York, where Dr. Naruse is now staying, he stated that it was the general belief in Japan that within a short while the women would be granted the franchise on an educational qualification.

A Call to the Labour Party.

At their last meeting, the Ealing Branch of the Independent Labour Party passed the following resolution:—

"This meeting of the Ealing Branch of the Independent Labour Party strongly urges the Labour Party in the House of Commons to put the question of the enfranchisement of women in the forefront of its programme during the present session."

"We believe that if our party were to take up a bold position when the House of Commons re-assembles, the Government would be compelled to incorporate women in the Suffrage Bill recently introduced."

Petitions on Behalf of Mountjoy Prisoners.

Miss Mary Gawthorpe, of Struanlea, Shoreham, Sussex, is sending out for signature a petition to the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland and his Chief Secretary, on behalf of Mrs. Mary Leigh and Miss Gladys Evans. After laying stress on the purity and honesty of their motives and the heavy sentences, the petition concludes thus:

"We, your petitioners, while declaring our opposition to a policy of personal physical violence on undefended people, plead on highest human grounds,

"1. That the undoubted courage of the protesters requires to be met by different treatment from the retaliation of forcible feeding. 2. That forcible feeding is not a solution, but only an aggravation, to women who feel themselves to be defending a position of high principle. 3. That the forcible feeding of rebellious prisoners of this character does not uphold the dignity of the law, or vindicate the high office of judgeship, inasmuch as resisting prisoners cannot be fed by force without danger to life and health, and prisoners so fed have had to be released in a very large number of cases before the termination of their sentences."

"We therefore beg

"1. That the forcible feeding of the aforesaid Gladys Evans and Mary Leigh shall cease. 2. That they be treated as political offenders, and be accorded the same privileges which have been recently given to Irish Suffragists in H.M. Prison, Mountjoy. 3. That the sentences of the said Gladys Evans and Mary Leigh be greatly reduced."

"And your petitioners will ever pray."

The Irish Women's Franchise League have also prepared a petition which has been largely signed.

Miss Gawthorpe has received promises of signatures from Prof. Schäfer, President of the British Association, Prof. and Mrs. T. K. Cheyne, of Oxford, the Bishop of Lincoln, Prof. Halliburton, Surgeon-General Evatt, Albert Dawson, Editor *Christian Commonwealth*, Mr. George Lansbury, M.P., Prof. James Ward, of Cambridge, Mr. Philip Snowden, M.P., and other well-known people.

Bernard Shaw on the Right to Starve.

Bernard Shaw, writing to Miss Gawthorpe with regard to the Mountjoy Suffrage prisoners, condemns forcible feeding as "an abominable expedient," and the Government for excusing itself by "lying and insolence in Parliament." He considers that the endangering of public safety cannot be permitted, and that if Suffrage prisoners commit suicide by starvation—food being within their reach—the Government could not be held responsible. He concludes thus:—

"I need hardly add that the responsibility for allowing things to reach such an extremity is, in my opinion, a much heavier one for the Government than for the Suffragists, because on the point at issue between them the Government is in the wrong, and the Suffragists are in the right. If, therefore, the Suffragists in Mountjoy are allowed to kill themselves, the horror which such an event will create, in spite of all logic, will be inspired by the Government, and not by the victims. And that is the final weakness of the position of the Government."

"If Dr. Crippen had been sentenced to penal servitude for life, and he had declared that he would starve himself to death if not released, the Government might have counted on a very large degree of public sympathy in replying literally and seriously: 'Starve yourself and be damned.'"

"But if it says that to Mrs. Leigh and Miss Evans, the general feeling will be that, though the prisoners will be starved, it is the Government who will be damned; and that will make all the difference."

"Discovery" of Miss Christabel Pankhurst.

The mystery of Miss Pankhurst's whereabouts was solved last week by the following announcement by the W.S.P.U., since which the interviewers have been busy. "We are able to announce that Miss Christabel Pankhurst is established in Paris, where she will remain for the time being, in order that she may deal with the political side of the movement. It is an open secret that from the day of her disappearance until now she has written our leading article, and all the political portion of *The Outlook*. This she will continue to do, but from now onwards her articles will be signed. We are in a position to assure our readers that Miss Pankhurst is perfectly safe from arrest."



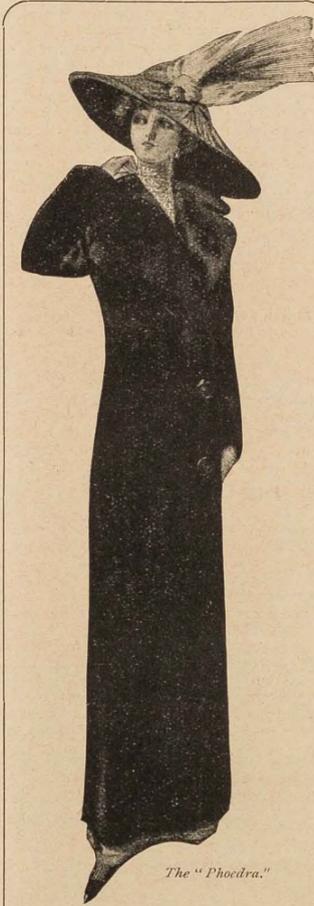
Opening of the Fur Season

FOR many months past our Fur buyers have been on the *qui vive* for special bargains in Furs (for prices of all peltry are steadily increasing), and, at every available opportunity, have bought up large parcels of skins where prompt cash has secured a concession in price. These pelts—purchased so advantageously—have been made up into fashionable garments which will be offered at our Season's Opening

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42-in.	"	£13 13 0
48-in.	"	£14 3 6
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17 full-length, fine bright Caracul Kid Coats, suitable for hard wear, with large roll collars, in various sizes. Usual price 18 gns. Sale price **10 Gns.**

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Lot 2. 45 Black Fox Stoles, trimmed brushes. Usual price, 6 Gns. Sale price - **3½ Gns.**

Muff to match, with head and brush. Usual price 5½ Gns. Sale price **3 Gns.**

Lot 6. 45 Black Wolf Stoles, made from fine quality skins, hardly distinguishable from real Fox, trimmed with heads and tails. Actual value, 7½ Gns. Sale price - **4½ Gns.**

Muff to match, with head and brush. Usual price, 3½ Gns. Sale price - **45/6**

Lot 15. 6 only, Handsome Real Sable Ties, 4 skins in each, trimmed with real Sable tails and paws. Usual price, 14 Gns. Sale price **10 Gns.**

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MEN WHO GOVERN US.

A Lively "Foursome."

An enchanting story comes to us from Dornoch, which, if *non e vero*, at least is *ben trovato*. It tells of the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary frisking on the links in fancied security, far from the madding Suffragette, and the discreetly distant detective, and setting out under these unwonted auspices for an innocent twosome, in the lightness of their hearts and the gladness of their souls. On this scene of holiday joy intrudes the inevitable female "person" with her inevitable statement, and a resolute friend. All citizens in whose breasts burns the ever-smouldering fire of martyrdom will appreciate the reckless devotion with which the Home Secretary grappled with the intruders, the while his revered chief took covert behind him; but it is not so easy to understand why the worthy gentleman saw fit to strain the heroic mood by threatening the athletic damsel with a penalty he was not in a position to enforce. "You shall be ducked in the pond," cried the incensed guardian of our domestic interests; and Mr. Asquith, recovering from his bashfulness—or, it may be, reluctant to be left out when such stirring matter was afoot—addressed himself to the other and vowed she should go, too.

At this period of the proceedings, the cautious reporter shows an irritating reticence. The details of the encounter become blurred. But it is manifest either that the gentlemen who guide our imperial and internal destinies had undertaken a task beyond their powers, or that they had spoken in jest and were not inclined to carry out their threat. What stands out clearly, however, is that the women, shut out from political rights, were not disposed lightly to forego the unexpected pleasure and privilege of indulging in mixed bathing in such exalted company. Exclaiming with much spirit, "If I go, you come, too!" one of these pioneers of adventure linked her arm with Mr. McKenna's; and but for the arrival of a panting and perspiring detective, the embarrassment, which the discreet reporter admits had already overtaken the rash pair, would have seriously increased. The rest of the tale is the ordinary one of violence and expulsion. If Mr. Asquith and Mr. McKenna have not added greatly by their recent exploit to their reputation as statesmen and to the dignity of their office, they have, at any rate, added to the gaiety of nations; and they have furnished yet another illustration of the true meaning of "Suffragette violence" for which we thank them.

The First Lord's Folly.

Mr. Churchill did a strange thing at Dundee. He once more addressed a gathering of those entities yclept women, of whose political claims and abilities he is so scornful. Why he should waste the Admiralty time to such bad purpose we are at a loss to imagine. Having made up his august mind that women do not, and shall not count in the State, he surely should show more consistency, should have more of the courage of his convictions, than to bother about explaining his lofty conceptions of statescraft to such useless and impotent creatures. It might be, of course, that it was because they were woman that he dared to talk such utter drivel to them. We cannot imagine his "pitching a tale" of the kind dished up to the Liberal women of Dundee to any audience of men.

An early interruption on the well-worn subject of women's disabilities extracted from our modern Solomon a remark to the effect that the discontented ones showed up badly in respect of demonstrating their political efficiency as compared with those pleased and placid dames who had come there to hear public affairs "seriously" discussed. The insolence, which assumed that the preposterous nonsense which served him with material for his discourse, was "serious discussion" of public affairs, is only equalled by its folly. Insolence and inconsistency have, we freely acknowledge, been the key-note of Mr. Churchill's career; hitherto, the folly has not been so markedly a feature. We hope the

Dundee Liberal women have profited by the privilege vouchsafed to them.

Devolution, Indeed!

Of his wild scheme of devolution, in which England, the predominant partner, is to be deprived of any possible advantage attaching to Home Rule by having her power limited by sub-divisions innumerable, no heed need be taken. A return to the days of the Heptarchy is as impossible as it is undesirable; and, like the single-tax, will not engage the attention of any serious politician. Mr. Churchill's anxiety that "attention should be drawn" to his suggestions and that men and women should turn it over and probe the difficulties and try to devise methods by which the difficulties might be overcome makes us smile. Why he should drag in women, and ask for their help in probing and devising, when he is going to deny them any share in the doing, is a thing only Mr. Churchill himself can explain. And we dare be sworn that he won't condescend!

With Mr. Samuel, this great statesman believes that devolution "will open the way to that closer union with the great dominions beyond the seas which must be achieved if the greatness of Great Britain was to endure." We will not allude again to the part women will inevitably play, under those circumstances, in maintaining that greatness instead of consummating the "disaster" prophesied by the colleague of these gentlemen, the Prime Minister. Rather would we deal with the peculiar assertion that "if such larger units could be created (as the centres of devolution), they would afford a much larger sphere than is open at present for the activities of women." This, with the patent and glaring injustice of the Irish Home Rule Bill staring us in the face, is as good an example of the insincerity of the men who govern us as need be required. It is a plain and positive fact, however unpalatable to the submissive dames of the Liberal Federation, that unless women have the Parliamentary vote wherewith to enforce their claims, they have no more chance of consideration in the various schemes of devolution which may be put forward than they have—shall we say—of winning the Derby?

C. NINA BOYLE.

CO-OPERATION, NOT EMIGRATION.

A WOMEN'S HOME FARM COLONY.

Why emigrate when farming by women can be made to pay at home? An enterprise, destined to prove that by co-operation trained women may make use of the splendid opportunities offered in this country for successful farming, is about to be started near Heathfield, Sussex. The practical and experienced woman at the head of "The Women's Co-operative Farm" is Miss Annie Emerson, who has run a ranche in the Argentine with conspicuous success as well as farms in England; her keen desire to demonstrate that women can do good and remunerative work in the Old Country has caused her to turn a deaf ear to the alluring offers that have come to her from other countries to give them the benefit of her knowledge and experience in starting farming enterprises. The Heathfield scheme is in no way philanthropic; it is a business proposition, but it is intended to give congenial occupation on a self-supporting basis to a large number of women. It will be a training school, but more; for it will take up the practical application of knowledge just where agricultural colleges end their usefulness. It means not simply spending money but earning it, and will be the medium by which women with limited incomes may avoid through co-operation the disheartening failures that so often mark individual effort.

An eminently suitable farm of 223 acres has already been secured near Heathfield, Sussex; it is within two and four miles of two different lines of railway, and is adapted for raising various crops; it also has thirty acres of woods, shooting rights which may be let at a profit; it is well watered by streams and springs; an eight-roomed house and two spacious cottages in

good repair and full of old oak, are other assets of considerable value.

It is proposed that the work on the farm shall include live stock—horses, cows, sheep, pigs, poultry, rabbits, bees, dogs—extensive fruit-growing, vegetable and flower gardening, as well as agricultural crops. That there is an assured market for the produce of such a farm is proved when statistics show that £35,000 are paid annually for tame, or what are usually called "Ostend" rabbits; that Denmark sends us over £14,000,000 worth of butter and £8,000,000 of bacon and pork.

According to the latest official report, it is estimated that our national imports are costing us:—

For wheat and flour	£44,187,000
For potatoes	1,302,000
For meat	47,970,000
For butter, &c.	27,062,000
For cheese	7,140,000
For eggs	7,968,000
For vegetables	14,006,000
Annual total	£149,635,000

These are terrific figures, and should bring home to everyone the vital importance of rebuilding the national agriculture.

The markets of Tunbridge Wells, Eastbourne and Hastings are within twelve to seventeen miles of the farm at Heathfield, and a motor lorry would be able to deliver produce in these and other towns.

Possession will be taken at Michaelmas and students can be received at once; the work of adapting the farm to new ideas will be a useful part of their training. It is good news to hear that even during the abnormally wet weather of the past weeks the farm has not suffered; there is good drainage and the crops are not damaged. A general working scheme will be to establish at the centre a model farm for training; an outside ring will be cut up for small holdings, which may be taken up by trained women and worked as they like. They will have the advantage of getting free advice, needful supplies, the hire of large implements through the Co-operative Farm Company, which will also market the produce. The possibilities of the enterprise, run on up-to-date and practical lines, are far-reaching. Heathfield is regarded as a pioneer colony which, in time, will extend into many off-shoots and so give employment to unlimited numbers of women.

The issue of a preliminary circular has brought a response large enough to ensure the purchase money of about £4,000 and a considerable surplus. It is intended to register a limited liability company with a nominal capital of £10,000. There will be two classes of investors: (a) debenture holders, whose money would be secured on the farm assets and carry 5 per cent. interest; (b) ordinary shareholders of £1 shares. It is hoped that some women shareholders will apply for posts on the farm; those already qualified will be put in charge of departments on a salaried basis. Holders of £50 and upwards will, if they wish, receive training which would render them eligible for salaried occupation on the colony, a charge of £1 a week being made for board and residence during training. It is intended also to give a complete and efficient training in all branches of the work, including domestic economy, to those who desire to emigrate.

Readers of THE VOTE will be interested to know that Mrs. Ayres Purdie, A.L.A.A., the able woman accountant and valued member of the Women's Freedom League, is taking a keen interest in the scheme and giving the promoters the benefit of her advice on the financial side of the undertaking. The prospectus of the company will be issued shortly; meanwhile further particulars may be obtained, from Mrs. Purdie, Hampden House, Kingsway, London, W.C.

We wish the Women's Co-operative Farm all success, recognising that in addition to providing remunerative occupation to qualified women, it will give women an interest in the land and that economic power, which is both desirable and important in advancing political influence.

A. A. S.

INTERNATIONAL SUFFRAGE FAIR.

TOWN HALL, KING'S-ROAD, CHELSEA.

November 13, 14, 15, 16.

Organiser: MRS. KATE HARVEY, Brackenhill, Highland-road, Bromley.

The following is the arrangement for countries and their representation:—

Stalls.

England	Mid-London.	Holland and Belgium.	Sheffield and York
Scotland	Scottish Branches.	Turkey.	Acton, Finchley, Hayes and Southall.
Ireland	Peckham, Clapham, Heme Hill and Norwood.	Egypt and Persia.	Australia
Wales	Welsh Branches.	Australia	Manchester, Eccles, Sale and Burnage.
Switzerland	Croydon.	New Zealand	Highbury, Stamford Hill and Tottenham.
Norway	Wellingborough and West Sussex.	Canada	Ipswich, Hadleigh Woolpit and Stowmarket.
Sweden Denmark and Iceland	Potteries and Wolverhampton.	South Africa	Burna
Austria, Hungary, Germany and Bavaria	Middlebrough and West Hartlepool, Sunderland and South Shields.	India and China	Cheltenham.
France	Harrow.	Japan	Hackney.
Italy, Spain and Portugal	Chester, Aintree, Liverpool.	America	Anerley, Brighton and Hove.
Russia and Finland	Hampstead and West Hampstead.		

The MEN'S STALL will be held by Mrs. Snow.

The LITERATURE STALL will be held by the Women's Freedom League Office, with a "Fiction" table by Miss Constance Maud.

The REFRESHMENT DEPARTMENT will be undertaken by Mrs. Fisher.

The SWEET STALL and AMBULANCE DEPARTMENT will be run by friends who are not members.

A stall for flowers and fruit will be arranged if sufficient promises to fill it are sent in by November 2.

For further details apply to your International Suffrage Fair secretary, who has full information as to costume, scheme of decoration, &c. A list of the International Suffrage Fair secretaries will be published in THE VOTE as soon as I receive all the names.

Though Portsmouth, Marlow and Thatcham have no stall, they are giving valuable help in preparing decorations.

Good Wishes from Internationalists.

Many suggestions and enthusiastic wishes for our success are coming from abroad, also promises of something more substantial when the writer gets home. All, like our helpful friend Madame d'Ermont, seem to have been handicapped by everyone being *en vacances*. Miss Martina Kramers, Editor of *Jus Suffragii*, is getting contributions for our Fair from Dutch friends, and would help us personally if she had not to prepare for the reception of their President, Dr. Jacobs, who has been travelling round the world with Mrs. Chapman Catt, and for an exhibition which will be held in Rotterdam next year.

TAX RESISTANCE.

I am still locked up! A fellow "resister" has sent the following lines to cheer me:—

Good luck, my friend, I wish to thee,
In thy brave fight 'gainst tyranny,
Brackenhill siege will bring good cheer
To those who hold our Freedom dear,
And fight the good fight far and near.

And when oppression is out-done,
And Liberty, at last, is won,
When women civic rights possess,
They'll think, I hope, with thankfulness,
Of those who bore the battle's stress.

K. HARVEY.

If you have not yet bought your Furs why not get them direct from the manufacturer and thereby save 50 per cent.? A visit to our Show-rooms will convince you that this is an absolutely genuine opportunity to get your Furs at half the retail prices. The Newest Shapes in Soft Fur Hats, Stoles and Muffs. We make a speciality of Humanitarian Furs, of which we have a choice selection. Old furs remodelled and brought up to date. GOLDSTEIN AND CO., Wholesale Furriers, 9, South-street, E.C. (near Moorgate-street Station).—Advt.

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By Mrs. ARNCLIFFE SENNETT.
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THE VOTE.

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SATURDAY, September 21, 1912.

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

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

EDITORIAL.

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

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POLITICAL PIE AND ITS CRUST.

Politics is the pie, and the party "program" (as *The Daily News and Leader* still stubbornly hath it) the crust. The ingredients of both are mixed, and frequently unsavoury; often, indeed, actually unclean. Sir George Kemp has told us so, in the plainest possible language, and other prophets likewise have forthtold, only we will not heed them, how unseemly is the system by which the national affairs are conducted. The party programme, concomitant to party politics, is an evil accessory to the unclean thing. Yet it is doubtful whether the iniquities are as gross and as flagrant as the silliness of it all.

Midlothian gave flaunting examples of the defects of the system. Here was a great, unwieldy, scattered constituency, whose component parts had little in common with each other, comprising professional, trading, and agricultural classes; two sorts of miners—shale and coal—whose interests were not identical; railway men, factory hands (both paper and carpet); tin-plate workers; a varied assortment of religious opinion, and every shade of politics, besides several nationalities. One man out of the three candidates offering themselves had to be chosen to "represent" this *olla podrida* of humanity. It followed rather naturally that in catering for so many tastes there should have been a good deal of *suppressio veri*, as well as *suggestio falsi*, as to facts, on the part of the gentlemen who had placed themselves in so invidious a position. And it is a laughable fact that the greatest number of votes should be polled for the one who, even if his position were the least involved and his dogma the simplest, was unquestionably the least intelligent of the three!

The very small majority which gave Major Hope the advantage over Mr. Shaw can honourably be claimed as due to the influence of suffragists. In a large turnover of votes, such as that at North-West Manchester, the parties can afford to waive aside the work done by the women; but in the Midlothian contest there can be no doubt of their effect on the results. Neither Liberal nor Unionist Party organs, however, allude to this; and one local paper alone has the temerity to face the awkward fact. The split Progressive vote, the Insurance Act, or Home Rule, are the only factors recognised by the triumphant or the defeated combatants, as having effect.

Mr. Churchill, speaking at several crowded meetings in his own constituency on two successive nights after the election, made only one brief and passing allusion to the set-back. He treated it with contempt. It was not of any consequence, he gave his hearers to understand. But he has apparently set himself to follow the example of the indefatigable Mr. Outhwaite, and is preparing a fresh ingredient for the party pie. The

Insurance Act has proved indigestible; the crust of promises raised round the Budget of 1909 has turned out heavy, and the heralded relief from taxation has not yet brought rapture into the homes of the people; the land-tax yeast will not ferment; the franchise reform pickle lacks piquancy. Instead of completing and maturing what has been begun, our political cooks hasten to add still more to the sorry mess; and every member of the Government Party appears to be racking his brains for recipes, however fantastic, and materials, however unpromising, with which to lure public attention away from the unprofessional dishing-up of the party pie and the demoralised condition of its crust. The public palate is not sensitive; but Liberal fare seems to be palling on it; and the First Lord has invented a compound which it is hoped will suit the popular fancy, and charm by its very novelty. A perfect orgie of Home Rule is to be given us, on the lavish lines of the village school-treat. Big buns of Home Parliaments, devolution in hunks, the United Kingdom in slices, and poor England in mince-meat, is the latest addition to the pie.

The situation before and after the contest in Midlothian, was full of pleasant humours by reason of the very silliness of those who had set themselves out to guide our destinies. Mr. Outhwaite, who was as a voice crying in a wilderness of taxation, struck the first comic note. He assailed the position of the Duke of Buccleuch, on the unimpeachable evidence of—the Lay of the Last Minstrel! The slaughtered Beattisons, butchered to furnish the Scotts with lands of which they did not become possessed until fully a hundred years later than the date of the incident described by poetical license, were referred to with a pathos that set a number of good Scots a-laughing. A reputation for inaccuracy thus established is a useful thing to one's antagonists, and the local Press made merry for the benefit of Major Hope. One can imagine how Mr. Churchill, at Dundee, would have verbally played an opponent who had so given himself away! The First Lord reserved his rebukes and his ridicule, however, for the women who showed an interest in their own political affairs, and seemed to think they displayed a lack of political sagacity by not being satisfied to trust their affairs in such incompetent hands as those of the gentlemen who perpetrate such elementary blunders and show such unbalanced judgment! And he was allowed, unchallenged, at Lochee, to say that the "Liberal party attacked monopoly, and that land was the greatest monopoly of all," when only an hour previously he had upheld and extenuated a greater monopoly still, the monopoly of political power by his own sex!

Major Hope, a pleasant, baldish person, with a pretty, smiling wife and a painful unreadiness of speech, had a comparatively easy furrow to plough. He had no constructive policy to prepare; there is little crust on his pie, and only a few homely, old-fashioned ingredients. Opposition to most things, propounded by Liberal or Labour, and a general disapproval of everything done in the last six years, composed the frugal political fare he offered the electorate; and one can only suppose that it is the surfeit of rich diet, the "fine confused feeding" provided so recklessly by the other party, which made it seem tempting. His manly confidence in its excellency and its sufficiency was touching, and really deserved success! The gallant gentleman cannot be looked upon, from the woman's point of view, as at all a satisfactory addition to the House of Commons. He will vote against the Reform Bill in any case, and may possibly help to secure a defeat on the third reading if women are included. He will in no case vote for anything more democratic than the inclusion of women on the Conciliation Bill basis.

Provost Brown's campaign was brisk and well-conducted, and while some consider the result paltry and disappointing, there are those who maintain with reason that a safe and solid foundation has been laid for future action. So far, none of the candidates for Labour honours who have taken the field since the misunderstanding between

the Government phalanx and the Labour wing, have met with any measure of success. Labour organisation is often slack and defective, and many labouring communities are bound hand and foot to the older party chariots. Liberal extravagance in promises, and Conservative richness in tradition sway them unreasonably; it will be a considerable time before the Parliamentary Labour strength will be on a level with that of its two great competitors for representative honours. In the meantime, we are no nearer learning, from any of the Labour aspirants to Parliament, whether the Labour Party as a party will vote against the third reading of the Franchise Bill if women are not included. We think that if the party, or its candidates, are content to accept help from women, it is high time that this obscure point were cleared up. It would be highly unsatisfactory were the question to be left to the individual member, and were the Parliamentary Labour Party to disclaim all responsibility in the matter. The time is wearing on, and the House will reassemble shortly. It would be helpful and encouraging if we could know that the party pie of at least one group of Parliamentarians is going to contain, unequivocally, the wholesome and toothsome ingredient of Women's Suffrage.

C. NINA BOYLE.

AUTOMATIC REPRESENTATION.

When a Parliamentary candidate goes down to a constituency and asks to be made its representative, he begins at once, either personally or through his agents, with a house to house canvas. And at every house where an elector awaits him he is ready to argue, discuss, persuade, perhaps even to be instructed, and to modify his views in accordance with local feeling—with such local feeling, at all events, as he may hope to win over to his own side.

But so surely as a house is in the occupation of a woman, with no lodger's vote to be enquired after, so surely do he and his agents pass that house by; or, if they stop at it, they do so in order to get the woman occupier's active assistance either as canvasser or subscriber to party funds, or in order to borrow some vehicle for polling day. The mere fact that the woman owns a house and has exactly the same stake in the country and in local affairs as her next-door neighbour, does not induce these practical gentlemen to spend their time on her doorstep adapting their views to hers, or endeavouring to reconcile differences.

And yet when the candidate has secured his election he will call himself that woman's "representative"!

Now men generally admit that they do not understand women,—or, at any rate, that women are much harder to understand than men. Yet here we have "representation" of this un-understandable sex very much more easily come by than representation of the men. In the process of canvassing the male electors, of estimating the main trend of their interests, and adjusting his opinions to their needs, the Parliamentary candidate believes, presumably, that he arrives at an automatic representation of the women. He takes a street, and he makes a sort of sandwich of it, or rather a whole string of sandwiches, for probably every unrepresented woman householder has got a voting male either to right and left of her, or a lodger occupying her front or her back parlour; and so, having secured the backing of the men voters in that street, he considers that he "represents" its interests; and if, after going the rounds, he has got a majority of these packets of sandwiches to support him, he goes up to Westminster and "represents" the constituency.

Yet he may have been sent there by a majority of only a few score of votes, and to get that score or so he may have manipulated his opinions, modified his professions, accentuated his pledges, promised to bring pressure to bear on this point or in that, in ways which do not at all represent the full body of local opinion. Those few score voters whose support he has strained for by promising, perhaps, to secure the industrial interests of

men in a certain trade, have been able to outweigh without effort or competition the views and interests of some hundreds of women whose qualification for the vote is the same as theirs.

With past legislation—both what has been carried and what has been attempted—in our minds it cannot be said that women's industrial interests are not sometimes threatened, and even seriously damaged, to suit the interests of men. And yet those women are asked—as a result of the process here described—to consider that they are "represented"; and Members of Parliament, with women's money in their pockets (which even at election time they have not attempted to earn), will stand up blandly and say to protesting deputations of women, "We are your representatives."

And of course the underlying basis of this unsubstantial assertion is the doctrine that women must think as men think, and if they don't their opinion must be ignored. And though that is the claim, we are asked to believe that women, in consequence of it, are under no form of subjection, and that in spite of there being an actual majority of women in this country, over a million for whom husbands could not be found—over five millions working for a wage, and something like ten millions more earning it in domestic labour but not getting it—in spite of the existence of this vast body of industrial life, differently conditioned, often adversely handicapped, almost always paid a lower wage for the same work, with the result that employers of all kinds are making bigger profit out of women than out of men, while the State is paying in flesh and blood, in ill-health, in unemployment, and in immorality for this deficiency of reward in the labour market. In spite of all this, we are asked to believe that women are automatically represented by the suffrages of the male electors!

Let us look at the matter straightforwardly in one of its most indisputable aspects. The industrial employment of women, and its effect upon the wage-earning opportunities of men, and upon the wellbeing of the race, is one of the biggest problems of modern social conditions. It is a problem in which women are directly concerned, quite as directly as men, and it is a problem which men are tempted to solve blindly, foolishly, and ineffectively, by thrusting women back more and more into restricted areas of industry, and so into more sweated conditions, leading either to starvation or prostitution; but it is not a problem which can be so solved without hideous loss and danger to the State. That solution, indeed, has been tried for long years, and it has failed. And working men are beginning at last to find out how much it has failed to their own cost.

In any case it is a big and a difficult problem; and big problems don't solve themselves "automatically," nor do they solve themselves justly and equitably when only one side of the interests involved has direct representation in the legislature.

Evil and sweated conditions are largely the result of women allowing themselves to be "represented automatically" by men over whom they claimed no power of control. Labour in the past accepted a similar automatic representation, or did not rebel against it; and capitalist and employer devised for labour the conditions which they thought good; and they told Labour then—as the Anti-suffragists are telling women now—that those conditions were inevitable.

The event has proved that contention to be untrue, and with its disproof has gone the false representative doctrine on which it was maintained. "Automatic representation" has been proved in the case of Labour to have been an organised hypocrisy and a fraud. In the case of women also the same charge against it holds good. No living interest has ever been automatically represented in any adequate manner while its own voice has been shut out.

The doctrine of automatic representation of women by men will have to go. Only men of arrogant and unimaginative minds can maintain it.

LAURENCE HOUSMAN.

HOW THE GOVERNMENT DEFIES THE LAW.

Those women who have heard or read of the impending arrest of Mr. Mark Wilks (the husband of Dr. Elizabeth Wilks) in consequence of his inability to pay income-tax on his wife's earnings from her profession, will doubtless be interested to know why such a situation is possible, and what is the exact legal position of the husband and wife.

Long ago in the dark ages, or to speak more precisely, in the year 1842, the Income Tax Act was passed, which regulates all income-tax procedure, even to the present day. It is a most fearsome piece of composition. Its language is archaic and tautological, it rises wholly superior to punctuation, and proceeds breathlessly through one hundred and ninety-four clauses.

Clause No. 45 provides that the "profits" of any married woman "shall be deemed to be the profits of her husband," and are to be charged with income-tax in his name and not in hers. In other words, he was to pay, and she was to be exempt, a perfectly fair arrangement in the bad old times when a man acquired his wife's revenues or earnings on their marriage and she became thereby literally a "deserted" person.

The word "profits" denotes all revenue or income derived either from the wife's capital or her labour. So whether she receives her income from rents, interest, dividends, &c., from the exercise of a trade or profession, or from salary or wages paid for her services or labour, a demand for payment of income-tax thereon must be made to her husband, and to him only. If he fails to comply with such demand, he can be thrown into prison (without any trial or other formalities) *until he pays*. Such is the unfortunate and wholly absurd position to which man-made law has brought Mr. Mark Wilks—as well as numerous other husbands whom the Inland Revenue authorities are mostly unable to locate.

It will be seen that his arrest might involve a husband's being imprisoned indefinitely, or even *permanently*, the period of detention being only determined by payment of the sum demanded, which in the present instance is £40. Most of the Press reports have rather distorted Mr. Wilks' case by asserting that it is Mrs. Wilks who is refusing to pay. Legally no married woman can even be asked to pay income-tax, and therefore a refusal on her part is quite out of the question.

I can hear someone saying, "Oh, but in 1882 we obtained a Married Women's Property Act." Quite true, but according to an official letter from Somerset House in my possession, "the Crown does not recognise this Act." The Crown authorities claim the right to maintain the position as it existed seventy years ago, and to over-ride the later and minor Act whenever it happens to suit their own ends.

It happens—for reasons which space compels me to omit—to suit them to the tune of two and a-half million pounds a year. Mr. Lloyd George confessed quite frankly in the House of Commons recently, when it was suggested to him that it was high time the Government set an example of compliance with the law, instead of bare-faced defiance of it, that to recognise the Married Women's Property Act would annually deplete the Treasury to this large amount.

Mr. Stuart Wortley boldly told the Government they were an unscrupulous and dishonest lot, who juggled with the laws of the country, and shaped their policy on £ s. d., instead of on even-handed justice. And in the course of the debate it was stated that if mercantile firms conducted their business on this principle they would speedily find themselves in the dock. Readers will probably be in thorough agreement with this declaration.

ETHEL AYRES PURDIE.

THE Massachusetts Senate has failed to pass the Teachers' Pay Bill over the Governor's veto; but the Bills increasing the pay of the watchmen and firemen were passed over his veto. Watchmen and firemen have votes.

THE GREAT MARCH OF WOMEN FROM LONDON TO EDINBURGH.

The great march of women is to assume more of a religious-spiritual than an actual political character. For that reason it is hoped that women of varying political opinions will cast aside political differences and march in an affectionate comradeship, carrying the flag of woman's emancipation to Edinburgh.

Every major Suffrage Society is asked to bring the proposal before their committee, and every Branch of each Society is requested to furnish one soldier woman for the march. The army will muster at Marble Arch or Trafalgar-square on or about Saturday, October 19. A serviceable and attractive uniform will be worn. It is estimated that women will be able to march ten miles a day, and that the march will take about five weeks to accomplish. Each woman will be asked to pay her own expenses, and it is computed that £10 will include living for five weeks and return railway fare from Edinburgh. Meetings will be held in villages and all important towns on the way, and the march will culminate in a mammoth meeting at which it is hoped several of the great Suffrage leaders will speak. A waggon will accompany the army to carry the necessary kit and literature for sale and distribution. Agents in advance will precede the marchers in order to secure suitable accommodation and places for meetings and to inform the local Press. It is also hoped that hospitality will be offered on the route. Not less than one hundred marchers will start.

As this is absolutely the most critical time in the history of the Woman's Suffrage Movement, it is hoped that women will come forward in a generous sisterly spirit to take part in this impressive and non-militant demonstration, remembering always that she who gives herself and her help quickly gives twice. All inquiries should be addressed—Mrs. de Fonblanque, Duneton, Petworth, Sussex.

AN APPEAL TO THE KING.

As a tax-resister on the ground that taxation and representation must go together, Miss Marie Lawson has made the following appeal to His Majesty the King:—

TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY, ETC. THE HUMBLE PETITION OF MARIE LAWSON, of 5, Westbourne-square, London, sheweth:—

That your petitioner, having been proceeded against by Your Majesty's Attorney-General in the High Court of Justice with respect to the non-payment of Income Tax, humbly prays Your Majesty to stay the said proceedings in consideration of the circumstances hereunder set forth:—

(1) That the imposition of such tax is wrong and unjust in that it is an infringement of the principle that taxation and representation must go together, a principle which has been long recognised in that rule which prohibits the House of Lords, and an unrepresentative assembly, from initiating or amending Money Bills; and it is respectfully submitted that that same principle should operate to prevent the House of Commons, an assembly equally unrepresentative with regard to Your Majesty's female subjects, from initiating or enforcing financial legislation affecting such subjects.

(2) That the redress of grievances has long been recognised as a condition to supplies, and that arbitrary taxation has been persistently and successfully resisted in the past, whether the arbitrary taxation levied by the King in his own person which in the Stuart period plunged this country into Civil War, or the arbitrary taxation levied by Parliament, in the name of the Crown, which caused the American revolution.

(3) That Your Petitioner, in common with large numbers of other women, has been driven to resistance by the good that is furnished by the continued refusal of your Majesty's government to grant to the women of Great Britain that measure of justice already enjoyed by their sisters in Your Majesty's dominions beyond the seas.

And your petitioner will ever pray, &c.

"EDGE O'DARK," MISS GWEN JOHN'S ONE-ACT PLAY, which was produced with success at a private performance on July 18, and which, on Mr. Laurence Housman's recommendation, was to have been included in a triple bill at a West End theatre this autumn, has been refused a licence by the Lord Chamberlain.

WHEN IN DOUBT—GO TO PETER ROBINSON'S.—Peter Robinson is certainly irresistible; everybody's every want in clothing seems to have been thought of and all purses considered. This is the moment when a general shabbiness appears to have spread over one's garments, and therefore the moment to go to Peter Robinson's for renovation. Those who have strenuous campaigning before them during the winter will find in the Oxford-street establishment very useful and smart long coats from 31s. 6d. Also tweed and serge skirts warranted to withstand all weathers and an excellent choice of blouses at very moderate cost. The robes for afternoon or evening wear, which only require joining at the back, to be seen at the Regent-street establishment, are a boon to those who have little time to spare or money to spend. The two artistic catalogues just issued are triumphs of production; every reader should send for one, and we know of the satisfaction that has resulted from judging by Peter Robinson's advertised goods and ordering—on faith.

HOW SOME MEN PROTECT WOMEN.

[The object of this column is to show not only how women suffer from acts of violence, but how slight a penalty the law exacts for such violence, in comparison with crimes against property. All members who kindly contribute newspaper cuttings, &c., are heartily thanked for their valuable co-operation.]

Criminal Assault.

James Evans, of Coed Ely, charged at Pontypridd Police Court with criminally assaulting a little girl. **Six weeks imprisonment.**

Murderous Assault.

Lilian Elizabeth Martin, at Caterham, August 25, assaulted by her husband with a razor. Set upon in a lane when proceeding to her work, and shockingly slashed about the throat. Conveyed to hospital and remained for days in a state of collapse. Six terrible wounds.

Elizabeth Dean, Battersea, attacked by Edward Ashford with a bread knife in the midst of a friendly conversation. Badly wounded and cut about the face. Prisoner had been courting her daughter, and accused her of coming between them. Charged with **causing grievous bodily harm**, at South Western Police-court before Mr. Hopkins.

Kate O'Brien, hawker, assaulted on the Brighton road, near Redhill, on August 17, by Arthur Killick, who, in company with a friend, first molested and hustled an old man, and then struck O'Brien a violent blow in the jaw for protecting him. Became senseless, and had since suffered dreadful pain night and day, and been unable to eat. Jaw fractured and mouth torn. Prisoner had been charged twice before. Chairman of Reigate Borough Bench, Major Foster, said it was a brutal assault, and inflicted the **maximum penalty, six months' hard labour.**

Ethel Clark, East Dulwich-road, attacked by George Clay, a stranger, when walking alone. Prisoner came behind her and drew a sharp instrument across her chin. Two men came to the rescue, and prisoner was charged before Mr. Baggallay at Lambeth.

Mary Moreland, attacked by Henry Hall, pedlar, for befriending a crippled fellow-lodger. Declared they should die together and cut her throat, afterwards attempting his own life. Man charged at Lancaster and **committed for trial.**

Mrs. West, threatened by her husband, an old soldier, with a loaded revolver. Man charged at Brentford, and **in view of his (military) career, discharged.** On leaving the court, "warmly embraced his wife."

Mrs. Baxendale, Reddish, constantly threatened by her husband, who drank incessantly. His father suffered imprisonment for life for cutting his wife's throat, and this man swore to follow in his footsteps, following the poor woman about with razors and bragging that he had a beautiful neck for the hangman. Eventually deserted her. At the Stockport Police-court she was **granted a maintenance order.**

Neglect.

Edward Williams, of Mold, Flintshire, earned 8s. a day, and father, mother, and five children slept in one bed. A girl of twelve was sent out to beg, and food supplied by the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children he ate himself. **Six months' hard labour.**

Thomas Huntley, charged before Major Foster at the Reigate Borough Court with neglecting two children, one his own and one his wife's illegitimate offspring. Betted and spent money on himself, and had never given his wife more than 6s. a week to live on. Except for gifts, her children would have had no clothes, and but for the landlady's kindness they would have starved. Said he was not guilty of intentional cruelty; but when the Bench sentenced him to **one month only**, so that he could the sooner come back to maintain his family, he exclaimed, "After I come out of prison must I go back to my wife and children?"

Murder.

John William Twynham, of Two Gates, Tamworth, charged with the **wilful murder** of his fifteen-months-old daughter, having cut her throat. Told his mother what he had done, and gave as his reason that the child was crying and he could not stop it!

Impertinence!

A woman was charged at the South Western Police-court with disorderly conduct. Her husband explained that he was having an altercation with her about her hat, which he objected to. "It was a fantastic hat, and I took it off her head and threw it in the road." **Wife fined 5s.**

Daisy Paine, charged at Marlborough-road with disorderly behaviour in Regent-street. Indignantly denied charge, and gave a good reference. Went to see a friend off by train and was accosted by strange man, with whom she declined to hold conversation. Complimented on her attitude by another strange man, who asked for her address. Refused to give it him or to shake hands with him, and was accosted by another man, who asked where she was going, and whether he could come home with her. Being by that time in something of a rage, was **arrested for disorderly conduct**, and remanded "for inquiries."

THE DUNDEE INCIDENT.

The following statement has appeared in the Press:—
The Women's Freedom League, represented in Dundee by the local Branch of which Miss Agnes Husband is president, and by Miss Nina Boyle, member of the National Executive Committee, is in no way concerned in the interruptions which took place at the meeting of the Women's Liberal Association, as reported in the daily press. The members are so well-known that special precautions are always taken to exclude them from such gatherings. It is, therefore, with all the greater force that this body can place on record its strong disapproval of the treatment of women by Liberal stewards, and Mr. Churchill's complacency in regard to it. His attitude, and that of the women supporters, who in their party obsession contemplate unmoved such outrages on their sex, call for strong condemnation. Liberal violence and intolerance, whether displayed by stewards or by responsible ministers, such as the Prime Minister and the Home Secretary, who assaulted two women and threatened them with a ducking in a pond for merely addressing them, are a greater disgrace to the Liberal party than all the actions of militant women are to their sex. The Women's Freedom League desire to point out that legitimate channels of action, or of approach to ministers of the Crown, are arbitrarily closed to voteless women; and on the shoulders of those who impose these limitations must rest the responsibility for unconstitutional or disconcerting methods. Had men thus interpolated remarks at a political meeting, however, the harshest treatment meted out to them would have been censure. It must also be pointed out that the incarceration of the women questioners under lock and key, without any breach of the law having been committed, or any charge being laid, is so amazing and unwarrantable a breach of public decency as to require further explanation.

AGNES HUSBAND,
C. NINA BOYLE.
(Members of the National Executive Committee.)

"REBECCA."

"Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm" has found her way through Mrs. Kate Douglas Wiggin's pen into the hearts of many readers who rejoiced in her quaint sayings and doings and her ability to make things smooth all round. Now "Rebecca" is to be seen in dramatised form at the Globe Theatre, Shaftesbury-avenue, and may be counted on to attract crowds who desire an evening of good and touching fun without wondering whether it could all happen so delightfully in real life. Rebecca as a soap merchant is irresistible, and is as eager to secure the lamp and the shade for the distressed family as to preserve her beloved Paris sunshade from harm as she gets out of Jerry's coach or escapes through deluging rain from her aunt's severity to the warmer welcome of Miss Tagliaferrero. Indeed, Rebecca and Jerry, as played by Miss Tagliaferrero and Mr. Boyg are heartily welcome, and the conquest of Aunt Miranda is accomplished by them in the best American style. The play is really Christmas fun begun early.

IN SWEDEN.

The annual Social Democratic Congress which has just concluded its sittings at Stockholm, passed unanimously a woman suffrage resolution which pledged the party's members in the Swedish Parliament to fight for the Women's Bill as one of the capital issues of the coming session.

THE SUFFRAGE ATELIER,

6, Stanlake Villas, Shepherd's Bush.

From time to time in these columns the work of the Suffrage Atelier will be described, and the various lines upon which new enterprise is embarked will be detailed for the benefit of those of our readers who take an interest in the practical side of Art. The new quarters of the Atelier will give greater scope for the energies of its talented staff and facilitate its widespread success.

Posters and other Pictorial Publications advertising The Woman's Movement, issued by The Suffrage Atelier, including Broadsheet No. 1, second edition, revised, containing twenty-nine designs for posters, &c., with particulars of the **Poster Campaign**, also designs for banners and decorations, can be seen at the offices of the Minerva Publishing Co., Ltd., Room 28, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, Strand.

New Designs illustrating Legal, Educational and Economic Disabilities of Women will be published in THE VOTE week by week.

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IPSWICH SUFFRAGE SHOP.

To keep a movement alive it is necessary to ring frequent changes, and thus arouse public attention and interest. The members of the Ipswich Branch of the Women's Freedom League acted on this principle when they determined to start a Suffrage shop. We had held numerous meetings, arranged deputations, carried on newspaper controversies and had public debates. Something more was wanted as a permanent and incessant reminder of the need to keep the public alive and alert to Woman Suffrage. So the shop at 22, Queen's-road was started, very largely through the energy and self-denial of Mrs. Tippett. It has been made a thing of beauty by Mrs. and Miss Pratt, who have devoted untiring energy to its upkeep. "A pretty little shop" everyone calls it, with its windows draped with hangings of green, white, and gold, forming a good frame for the display of literature and posters. An array of dolls testifies to the energy of the Woolpit Group who sent them for sale, and articles of various descriptions attract the attention of the passers-by. If you just walk inside you will find tea, nutter cakes and many other good things asking to be bought for the benefit of the League. A room at the back of the shop, decorated in the colours of the League, serves as a *rendezvous* for members and as a committee-room. There a week ago friends listened to the experiences of some of the caravanners, and regarded our Van as a veritable Noah's Ark, because we appeared before them dry and cheerful after the deluge. Here, too, we discussed the Fair, and decided that working parties must be held every week, and that no pains must be spared to make our stall a success. Although our helpers are to be dressed as Red Indians, we hope their appearance will not be too alarming to keep purchasers from the stall. The shop possesses a library of its own, and will gladly welcome additions to its bookshelves. Books bearing on the Woman's Movement will be most gratefully received, and also saleable articles of any sort. Our thanks are due, not only to Mrs. Tippett and Mrs. and Miss Pratt, but to Mrs. McCreery, Miss Brett and Miss Bobby, who have given valuable time and help. The shop is open from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., and is a constant reminder to those who pass by that the enfranchisement of women is an urgent question demanding immediate attention.

C. E. A.

OTHER SUFFRAGE SOCIETIES.

The Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association.—International Franchise Club, Grafton-street, W.

The Australian and New Zealand Women Voters' Association assembled at the International Women's Franchise Club on September 9, for the farewell tea given by the Association to their hon. sec., Miss Harriet Newcomb, who is about to make a transplanetary trip to Australia, in company with Miss Hodge, one of the Executive Committee. The President, Lady Stout, on behalf of the committee, handed to Miss Newcomb a handsome morocco bag as a token of their appreciation of the splendid work which she had done during her year of office, and hoped that her absence would not be unduly prolonged. Miss Newcomb, in expressing her thanks, said that the year's work had been a most valuable experience; she and Miss Hodge, she added, hoped they would be able to do much to help the cause of Woman Suffrage while in South Africa—where they propose staying a week or more—en route to Australia, but more especially in the States of Australia, where Miss Newcomb promised to bring forward Mrs. Merivale-Mayer's point of the injustice which Australasian women suffer in the Mother lands by being disfranchised. Among those present were Lady Stout, Mrs. H. Gray, Mrs. Maquay, Mrs. Morrison, Miss Morrison, Miss Isitt, Mrs. Merivale-Mayer, Miss Hodge, Miss Gertrude Bucke, M.A., Mrs. Keith Adam, Mrs. Meeson-Coates, Miss Lidia Hoare, Mrs. W. J. Turner, &c., &c. Miss Newcomb and Miss Hodge left England on September 12.

Irish Women's Suffrage and Local Government Association.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. HASLAM, 125, Leinster-road, Dublin.

At a committee meeting, at 33, Molesworth-street, on Thursday, September 12, Lady Dockrell, U.D.C., presiding, resolutions were adopted reaffirming the character of the Association as strictly non-militant, and expressing approval of the action of Mrs. Haslam in sending her letter to the Irish Press in June, respecting the window-breaking in Dublin. It was decided to invite Mr. P. Snowden, M.P., to address a public meeting in Dublin in October, and to solicit all our representatives to give a strenuous support to Mr. Snowden's proposed amendment to the Government of Ireland Bill, conferring the Parliamentary Franchise upon all Irish women who possess the Local Government vote. A letter from Mr. Overend was read informing the committee of the generous bequest of £300 from the late Miss Dupré Wilson, which, however, will not be available during the lifetime of another legatee. It was also decided to urge upon the Prime Minister, and the Home Secretary, the insertion of some most necessary alterations in the Criminal Law Amendment Bill.

Church League for Women's Suffrage.—Sec.: Rev. C. HINSOLIFF, 11, St. Mark's-precinct, Regent's Park, London, N.W.
Thanks to the great help received from members of the local suffrage societies and the active support given us by some of the clergy in Middlesbrough and district, we hope to have a very successful series of services and meetings there during Church Congress week, Sept. 30-Oct. 5. The devotional side of our work will naturally be emphasized, special services being held at St. Peter's, St. Aidan's, and All Saints', Middlesbrough, and at Christ's Church, Coatham. Full particulars will be published in the October number of *The Church League for Women's Suffrage* monthly paper, and handbills will be widely distributed in the neighbourhood next week. We cordially invite the co-operation of all suffragists in this effort to rouse more enthusiasm for our great Cause. Offers of help will be most gladly received by the organiser, Miss L. Corhen, either by letter to the London offices, or on and after Wednesday, September 23, at the local Committee-rooms, Free Trade Buildings, Grange-road West, Middlesbrough.

BRANCH NOTES.

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

Will Branch Secretaries kindly write their reports very distinctly and briefly on ONE SIDE of a sheet of paper, leaving a margin on the left, and address them to the Editor, THE VOTE Office, 2, Robert-street, Adelphi, London, W.C. A halfpenny stamp is sufficient; the flap of the envelope should be tucked inside. All reports must reach the office on or before the first post on Monday mornings.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.—Anerley and Crystal Palace.—Hon. Sec.: MISS J. FENNINGS, 149, Croydon-road, Anerley.

Miss Ethel Fennings was speaker at our usual meeting last Friday, and as a gentleman in the audience objected to certain of her remarks, she proceeded to deal with the question of the White Slave Traffic and the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, showing how Clause 1 had been so altered in the committee stage as to render it quite ineffective. Her remarks won the approval of her listeners, and a resolution calling upon our member, Mr. F. Hall, to vote for Mr. Rowntree's amendment to restore the clause to its original wording was carried unanimously. Members and friends are reminded of our two extra open-air meetings on September 19 and 26, at the Train Terminus, Crystal Palace.

Croydon.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. TERRY, 9, Morland-avenue. Office: 32a, The Arcade, High-street.

Our open-air meeting on September 12 was a great success. An unusually large crowd assembled and listened with great interest to the speaker, Mrs. Bouvier, who answered the many questions that were asked. Mrs. Pyart took the chair. Will members please prepare for our Jumble Sale early in October? We shall be glad of presents for sale at the office, and any articles that are likely to sell will be gratefully received. We hope to start our weekly "at homes" on the first Friday in October.

Finchley.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. TINKLER, 3, Stanley-road, East Finchley.

A meeting was held, as arranged, at Mrs. Owen's, on September 12, to discuss work for the International Suffrage Fair. Miss Mosditchian was elected our Fair Secretary. Will all those who were not able to be present communicate with Miss Mosditchian (or myself) and say what they have undertaken to contribute to the stall. It is hoped that each member will obtain many articles from friends, especially as this is to be an international fair. We are arranging a meeting at Head Office between ourselves, Hayes and Southall and Acton, as we three Branches are to share a stall.

Hackney.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. PIEROTTI, 31, Walsingham-road, Clapton, N.E.

An important Branch meeting will be held on Thursday, September 19 at 23, Terrace-road, S. Hackney. Business relative to the November Fair will be dealt with, and all members are specially urged to be present. Everyone must help personally to make a success of the Japanese stall, and fresh suggestions will be greatly appreciated. It is proposed that donations be given by those who cannot give their time. The shop at Clarence-road, which was held on a temporary lease, has had to be given up to meet the owner's requirements, but it is hoped that other suitable premises will soon be obtained.

Mid-London.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. TRITTON, 1, Northcote-avenue, Ealing.
At our quarterly members' meeting, on September 9, we were glad to welcome three new members, and to see Mrs. de Vismes, who can so rarely attend. She told us as much as she could of the arrangements for the International Suffrage Fair, and we are fortunate to have secured such an enthusiastic "Fair Secretary" for our stall. Miss Killingworth was elected chairman at our Branch meetings for the coming quarter, and our treasurer's cash statement was passed. Mrs. de Vismes's report is as follows:

It was a great pleasure to find numbers and enthusiasm at our quarterly Branch meeting at Robert-street, on September 9. The International Suffrage Fair was the special subject for discussion, and several members, unable to give the time to work, have promised donations, which will buy materials; others will provide materials for use. We expect a record attendance at the first evening working party on Wednesday, September 25, from 7 to 10 p.m., at 1, Robert-street, Adelphi. Madame Kübler, Mrs. Nourse, Mrs. Tritton, Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Hyde, Miss Benett, Mrs. Cobden Sanderson, Mrs. Cope, Miss Craig, and Miss Olive Terry, are helping in varied and excellent ways, but more helpers are wanted. Who will come? Please send me names without delay. Also come in crowds to the working party; there will be work for all. Will members let me know at once what work they can do, either at home or at the working parties? We have a number of orders, and shall be glad of more. Also will they let me know definitely how much time they can give for the afternoons and evenings of the Fair?—EVELYN DE VISMES, Hon. Sec. I.S.F., Delagoa, St. George's-road, St. Margaret's-on-Thames.

Peckham Group.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. J. PICKERING, 23, Albert-road.
On September 12 we had a most successful meeting at Hanover-park. Mrs. Deal chaired, and Mrs. Tanner gave a splendid address to a very interested audience. There was no opposition.

Stamford-hill.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. THOMSON, 7, East Bank.
Our usual open-air meeting was held on Friday evening, when Mr. Hammond was the speaker, and Miss Killingworth chaired. She soon drew a crowd, and fearlessly touched on unpleasant topics, and Mr. Hammond was afterwards kept busy by the questions and remarks which never ceased. His hearers seemed to enjoy heckling one of their own sex, but he was able to hold his own. We hope to have another meeting next Friday at eight o'clock as usual. The International Suffrage Fair Committee met last Saturday morning at Mrs. Goodwin's to discuss ways and means to cover our New Zealand Fair territory, and the three Branches promise well as to practical work and finance. Working parties are arranged, the first one in Stamford Hill being fixed for Monday, 23rd inst., at 6 p.m., when Mrs. Cashmore is kindly entertaining us at 11, Rookwood-road, Clapton-common. Mrs. Goodwin is organising a special Branch

trade in home-made comestibles, all takings to go to the Fair Fund, and honey, jam, pickles, and preserved fruits are on sale. Branch members please note also that Mrs. Goodwin's second Vegetarian Demonstration will be on Saturday, September 21, at 11 a.m.

PROVINCES.—Aintree.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. SHAW, 15, Chatsworth-avenue.

A Branch meeting was held at Aintree Institute on September 10. Miss Appleton read an excellent paper on the need for the vote from the standpoint of an infant schoolmistress. She showed the absurdity of many of the regulations of the present code, and contrasted the Government's "recommendations," many of which were excellent, with the "requirements" regarding the staffing of schools, amount of floor-space, &c., which made the carrying out of the recommendations almost an impossibility. Miss Appleton strongly advocated increased grants for children under five years, admitting them to school, and keeping them from the dangers of the gutter; reduction in size of classes; revision of salaries; recognition of the Higher Froebel certificate for infant teachers; and the appointment of women inspectors chosen from the ranks of the teaching profession. Mrs. Evans announced the forthcoming visit of Mr. Laurence Housman to Liverpool on October 16. The Yamen Assembly Rooms, Bold-street, have been engaged for the occasion, and a very successful meeting is anticipated. The secretary would be glad to receive names of those willing to help in the sale of tickets, distribution of handbills, addressing of envelopes, &c.

Manchester (Burnage).—Hon. Sec.: MRS. G. BRICKHILL, 33, South-avenue, Garden Village, Levenshulme.

Our first sewing party for the International Suffrage Fair was held at 23, South-avenue on September 9, during which one of our members read from "Woman and Labour," by Olive Schreiner. These sewing and reading meetings will be continued every Monday evening until November, when our contributions will be despatched to the Suffrage Fair.

Middlesbrough.—Hon. Sec.: A. MAHONY, 33, Albert-terrace.

A meeting was held on September 10 at 35, Albert-terrace, at which Mrs. Schofield Coates presided. Arrangements for winter work were made. Mrs. Schofield Coates, who is arranging the syllabus of meetings, reported that she has secured several good speakers for the Branch. Two suffrage plays are to be given on October 30, under the management of Nurse Lee. Miss Hotham kindly consented to represent the Branch at the International Suffrage Fair. Members and friends are asked to meet every Wednesday evening at 7.30, at Mrs. Schofield Coates, Wilstrop House, Roman-road, for the purpose of working for the Fair.

Portsmouth and Gosport.—Hon. Sec.: MRS. WRETTON, 64, Devonshire-avenue, Southsea.

We have undertaken to make 250 chrysanthemums for the Fair. Meetings for this purpose will be held every Wednesday from 2.30 to 9 p.m., at 17, Lombard-street. Members are earnestly asked to come and help.

SCOTLAND.—Dunfermline.—Hon. Sec.: MISS MCCALLUM, 72, Brunfield-avenue.

We were delighted to have Miss Boyle with us on September 13 and 14. On Friday evening we visited Lochgelly, a mining village eight miles from Dunfermline, where Miss Boyle kept a crowd of miners and their womenfolk interested for an hour in the darkness, while she told them of the many advantages to be gained by the nation if they would only help to get votes for women. We journeyed down to Inverkeithing on Saturday afternoon, where we met the Rosyth workers, whom we think would be the better of some of Mr. John Ward, M.P.'s superfluous energy to improve their hard lot in life. Miss Boyle ended her visit with a big meeting in Dunfermline, one of the finest ever held there for Votes for Women. Many were the expressions of regret when she was obliged to leave for her train for Glasgow. "I could of listened for hours yet to ye!" said one old man, with tears in his eyes.

MISS ALISON NEILANS.—In reply to the many enquiries we have received, we are very glad to inform our readers that Miss Neilans has made sufficient progress to be able to leave the nursing home at an early date. In spite of the prospect of a long convalescence, we hope that her health will soon be completely re-established.

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS: W.F.L.



DARE TO BE FREE.

LONDON AND SUBURBS.
Thurs., Sept. 19.—THORNTON HEATH CLOCK, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tippet and Mrs. Terry. CRYSTAL PALACE TRAM TERMINUS, 7.45 p.m. Chair: Mr. W. G. Prince. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. RUSHCROFT ROAD, Brixton, 8 p.m. Mrs. Tanner and Miss Spriggs.
Fri., Sept. 20.—THE TRIANGLE, Penge, 7.30. Speaker: Miss Fennings. NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 2.30 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 21.—NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 10 a.m. Trafalgar Square Meeting, 4 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard, Miss Boyle, Miss Andrews, Mrs. Merivale Mayer, Mrs. Schofield Coates, Miss Anna Munro, Miss A. B. Jack, Mrs. Tippet, Mrs. Nevinson, Mrs. Tanner, Mr. J. Y. Kennedy, and Mr. John Simpson. VEGETARIAN DEMONSTRATION, 11 a.m., 23, Stamford Hill-mansions.
Sun., Sept. 22.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Miss Munro. Chair: Mrs. Tippet.
Mon., Sept. 23.—FAIR COMMITTEE MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 4 p.m. STAMFORD HILL "FAIR" WORKING PARTY, 11, Rookwood-road, 6 p.m.
Wed., Sept. 25.—Caxton Hall Public Meeting, 3.30 p.m. Speakers: D. M. Mason, Esq., M.P., Mrs. Despard and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson. "FAIR" SEWING MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 6 to 9 p.m.
Thurs., Sept. 26.—CRYSTAL PALACE TRAM TERMINUS, 7.45. Miss Leah Anson, 14, Bohemia-place, Hackney, 8 p.m. Women's Labour League Meeting. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard.
Fri., Sept. 27.—THE TRIANGLE, Penge, 7.30 p.m.
Sat., Sept. 29.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Mrs. Mustard. Chair: Miss Le Croisette.
Wed., Oct. 2.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. Rev. F. M. Grant, Mrs. Cunningham. Chair: Mrs. Tanner. "FAIR" SEWING MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 6 to 9 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 6.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speakers: Miss Andrews and Mrs. Cobden Sanderson. Chair: Miss W. Spriggs.
Wed., Oct. 9.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. J. Cameron Grant, Esq., Mrs. Merivale Mayer. "FAIR" SEWING MEETING, 1, Robert-street, 6 to 9 p.m.
Sun., Oct. 13.—HYDE PARK, noon. Speaker: Mrs. Despard. Chair: Mrs. Nourse.
Tues., Oct. 15.—HOMERTON CONSERVATIVE CLUB, 8 p.m. Debate: Mrs. Mustard, W.F.L., and Miss Mabel Smith, N.L.O.W.S.
Wed., Oct. 16.—CAXTON HALL PUBLIC MEETING, 3.30 p.m. Mrs. Despard and Miss Boyle.

PROVINCES.

Mon., Sept. 23.—Chester. Assembly Rooms. Newgate-street. Public Meeting, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Despard and Miss Anna Munro. Burnage "FAIR" SEWING MEETING, at 23, South-avenue.
Tues., Sept. 24.—South Shields. Miss Boyle. Liverpool. Public Meeting, Aintree Institute, 8 p.m. Speakers: Mrs. Aime Delano and Mrs. Evans. Chair: The Rev. F. W. Nicholson.
Wed., Sept. 25.—Sunderland. American Tea. Miss Boyle. Middlesbrough. "FAIR" Sewing Party, 7.30 p.m., at Mrs. Schofield Coates', Wilstrop House, Roman-road. Portsmouth. "FAIR" Sewing Meeting, 2.30, 17, Lombard-street.
Thurs., Sept. 26.—West Hartlepool. Public Meeting. Miss Boyle.
Fri., Sept. 27.—Bishop Auckland. Miss Boyle.
Sat., Sept. 28.—Middlesbrough. Open-air Meeting. Miss Boyle.
Mon., Sept. 30.—Middlesbrough. P.U. Lecture Hall, Public Meeting. Speakers: Miss Boyle and Mrs. Nevinson.
Wed., Oct. 2.—Middlesbrough. Wilstrop House, Roman-road. "FAIR" Sewing Meeting.
Wed., Oct. 16.—Liverpool. Public Meeting, Yamen Assembly Rooms, Bold-street. Laurence Housman, Esq., and others.
Nov. 1 to 5.—Manchester. Campaign. Miss Anna Munro.

SCOTLAND.

Thurs., Sept. 19.—Kirkintilloch. Miss Boyle and Miss Eunice Murray.
Tues., Oct. 15.—Glasgow. D. M. Mason, Esq., M.P., Laurence Housman, Esq. Chair: Miss Anna Munro.
Fri., Oct. 25.—Rothesay. Miss Anna Munro.

IN HYDE PARK.

The Mid-London Branch held the usual meeting in Hyde Park on Sunday, September 15, when Mrs. Tanner spoke, and Miss Underwood acted as chairman. The crowd was unusually large, and the presence of two rather virulent anti-Suffragists greatly added to the gaiety of the proceedings. It was amusing to note the delight of the crowd when the speaker scored off her interrupters. Miss Underwood was warmly applauded at the close of her graceful opening speech, and both ladies were surrounded by a crowd of sympathisers eager to offer their congratulations at the end of the meeting.

A SALARY of £170, rising by annual increments of £10 to £200, for a professional instructor in waiting in connection with the School for Waiters failed to secure suitable candidates. It is proposed to advertise the post again at a salary of £200, rising by annual increments of £10 to £250. Why not an instructress for waitresses?

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The Women's Freedom League

WILL HOLD REGULAR PUBLIC MEETINGS ON Wednesday Afternoons AT CAXTON HALL.

Speakers, September 25th: D. M. MASON, Esq., M.P. (who, at its First Reading, moved the rejection of the Franchise Bill, now before Parliament, because it did not include Women), Mrs. DESPARD and Mrs. COBDEN SANDERSON. Chair to be taken by Mrs. HUNTSMAN promptly at 3.30.

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SPEAKERS :

PLATFORM I.—Facing National Gallery.

Mrs. Despard.
Mr. J. Y. Kennedy.
Mrs. M. W. Nevinson.
Miss A. B. Jack.
Mrs. Tanner.

Chairman : Miss ANNA MUNRO.

PLATFORM II.—Facing Strand.

Miss Nina Boyle.
Mrs. Merivale Mayer.
Mr. J. Simpson.
Mrs. Schofield Coates.
Miss Constance Andrews.

Chairman : Mrs. TIPPETT.

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